Joel Fithian Abraham Lincoln Assassination Account

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Joel Fithian Abraham Lincoln Assassination Account, 1872

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Joel Fithian Abraham Lincoln Assassination Account,
Date (inclusive): 1872
Collection Number: Wyles SC 949
Creator: Fithian, Joel
Extent: .02 linear feet (1 folder)
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Department of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, California 93106-9010
Physical Location: Vault
Language: English.
Access Restrictions
None.
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Acquisition Information
Undetermined.
Scope and Content of Collection
Handwritten thirteen-page account by Joel Fithian, entitled "Recollections of Stirring Times," dated April 5, 1872, in which he recounts what he witnessed in Washington at the time of Abraham Lincoln's assassination. Fithian, a major in the U.S. Army, was staying at the National Hotel, where John Wilkes Booth also had been staying. Says he was a speaking acquaintance of Booth's, who always seemed to have plenty of money and was a favorite of the ladies of the hotel.
According to Fithian, Booth was particularly fond of the two daughters of Senator Hale of New Hampshire and was to have dined with them at breakfast the morning following the assassination. Fithian notes that Booth was frequently absent from Washington, claiming to be looking after his oil speculations. Also talks about the crowds in the streets following the assassination, the capture of Booth, and stories about his secret burial.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Lincoln, Abraham,--1809-1865