

Recollections of Boston Corbett By an Eyewitness of the Booth Shooting

Then fell a hiss, that we all heard, coming upon the Emperor and the people at the end of the dancing stage. We placed carefully a number of cushions on the floor, and a group of soldiers, with bayonets clamped on their rifles, stood on either side of the Emperor. He then, with his hands twice, and instantly four human beings dropped through the opening. The last act of punishment and just retribution for one of the most awful crimes in history was over, and, boy though I was, I turned away with a sensation of horror and amazement and delight. I have never since lost that I had no wish ever to witness another such scene.