

THE TRIAL OF ORRIN DE WOLF FOR THE MURDER OF WILLIAM STILES. WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, 1845.

THE NARRATIVE.

William Stiles, a deformed and feeble man, married to a good-looking wife, was lazy and given to intemperance. He had a small property which on account of his habits had been placed in the hands of trustees and it would go to his wife at his death. She was not fond of him and told this more than once to a boarder named De Wolf. One night Stiles proposed to the boarder that they should go for a spree and the latter hired a sleigh and they drove together to a tavern in the country where Stiles got very drunk. When they returned to the livery-stable, De Wolf told the people there that Stiles was dead drunk and they helped to carry him upstairs. When a physician was called he pronounced him dead. On the theory that De Wolf had strangled him in the sleigh, he was tried and convicted of murder.

THE TRIAL.<sup>1</sup>

*In the Supreme Judicial Court, Worcester, Massachusetts, June, 1845.*

HON. LEMUEL SHAW,<sup>2</sup> *Chief Justice.*  
HON. SAMUEL WILDE,<sup>3</sup>  
HON. CHARLES A. DEWEY,<sup>4</sup> } *Judges.*

<sup>1</sup> *Bibliography.* \*"Warning to the Young. Trial of Orrin De Wolf, for the murder of Wm. Stiles, at Worcester, January 14, 1845. Including his confession, showing the natural results of intemperance and licentiousness. Worcester: Published by Thomas Drew, Jr., 136 Hanover Street, Boston, 1845."

<sup>2</sup> See 1 Am. St. Tr. 443.

<sup>3</sup> See 4 Am. St. Tr. 99.

<sup>4</sup> See 4 Am. St. Tr. 99.