

known, but to say that I found him in the street, which I did to other people. In company with the sexton I carried Stiles home. His wife asked me if I had killed him? I said, no. She said she was glad that I had not killed him, that she had rather that he should be brought home so than brought home drunk.

The next morning ——— came into the barn. I asked him how he killed Stiles? He said that he put his hand into his handkerchief on the back side of his neck and drew it so tight that he could make no noise. He asked me when I was going to pay him? I told him as soon as I could get the money. He said that I must say nothing about his killing Stiles. I told him that there was a mark about his neck (Stiles). ——— proposed our seeing Stiles. We went to Stiles' house, saw the mark. After we came out of the house ——— said that he thought the mark would not be noticed. Mrs. Stiles, when I boarded in her family, said that she had married for her husband's property, and in spite against her family and wished she could get rid of him. I might then have the property, if I would take her with it, and I refused to have anything to do about it. I commenced boarding with Stiles about the middle of April last and within a few weeks I had illicit intercourse with Stiles' wife, and this continued until Stiles' death.

Orrin De Wolf.

Worcester, Feb'y 20, 1845.

Some time after, the jury that convicted him recommended that his sentence should be commuted to life imprisonment on the ground that he was but 18 years of age, weak-minded and ignorant, and easily influenced by others. A number of petitions, signed by prominent citizens of Worcester County, requesting commutation, were filed in the executive department, and the Committee on Pardons, after having granted a hearing and considered all the circumstances in connection with the case, advised and recommended that the Governor should commute the sentence of Orrin De Wolf to imprisonment for life in the State Prison, and a formal commutation of sentence was issued August 29, 1845.