From the Granite State Free Press
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Norwich, Vt.

There is considerable excitement here over the recent startling developments destined to solve what has for five years been a deep mystery, and which may implicate two Norwich citizens in a case of murder. Five years ago there resided in Beaver Meadow, in the western part of Norwich, a negro preacher, John Harrison, who held services in school houses whenever he could gain an audience. His peculiarities engendered the hatred of one Will Eastman and his companions, and frequent rows resulted between Harrison and these enemies. Harrison was nearly killed in one of these encounters, but recovered. The preacher disappeared, and knowledge of his whereabouts was never gleaned. It is given out by a former intimate friend of Eastman that he has confessed to the killing of Harrison, that the body was buried in the cellar of the hut and that all traces were obliterated by fire. Eastman has a very unsavory reputation and is now awaiting trial by the supreme court on a charge of burglary, and is under suspicion for other similar cases. He is now suffering from a wound received at the hands of Postmaster Smith, who shot him a few weeks ago in self defence. Anticipated death is supposed to be the cause of the confession, and a desire to even matters with his enemy Smith. The selectmen of Norwich will investigate the old hut.

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