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A MURDER MYSTERY.

Two Norwich Men Suspected of Killing a Preacher Five Years Ago.

NORWICH, Vt., Jan. 31 — Hanover and Norwich are excited over recent developments 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 Norwich a preacher, John Harrison, who held services in schoolhouses wherever 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. The summer of 1890, it is said that Eastman and a chum went to Harrison's home and proceeded to "do up" the old man, who defended himself with a dirk knife, and as a result of the struggle Eastman now carries an eight inch scar and numerous other marks. They overpowered Harrison and having beaten out his brains with an iron kettle, as they supposed, left him for dead, while they boasted to neighbors of their deed. Harrison, however, rallied, and it is stated that Eastman vowed he would finish him. A few weeks later the preacher disappeared, and knowledge of his whereabouts was never gleaned.

It was given out by a former intimate friend of E stman 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 implicated in the deed Chauncy Smith, postmaster of West Norwich. The latter disowns all knowledge of the crime, but asserts that he has no doubt that Eastman knows much about the disappearance of Harrison. 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 similar other cases. He is now suffering from a wound received at the hands of postmaster Smith, who shot him a few weeks ago in self-defense. Anticipated death is supposed to be the cause of the confession and a desire to even matters with his enemy Smith.

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