

THE PENALTY IS PAID FOR HARVIE'S MURDER

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and wanted David Fisher to open the rear door. He said "I cannot, for Stanley has got the key." They got an axe and drew the staple. Fisher led the way, and at the bottom of the stairs, to his horror and amazement, he saw the feet of a man protruding out of a pile of potatoes. McCarthy and the others inspected the place where the body was lying, and discovered that Mr. Harvie's head had been severed from his body and had been concealed somewhere.

A subsequent search of the cellar revealed the murdered man's head in a bag in another part of the cellar, covered over with a pail. The presumption from the condition of things above stairs, and the wounds upon the dead man's face, was that the murderer attacked him in the kitchen with a knife, for Harvie was an old and feeble man. The murderer must then have completed his bloody deed in the cellar, severing the unfortunate man's head from his body with an axe.

Shortly before the discovery of the dead body was made Stanley disappeared, but was arrested by Constable Singer of Windsor, the same night. He was unconcerned about his arrest and offered no resistance. He is of fair complexion and about 28 or 30 years of age, and was at the time of his arrest an able-bodied man. He said he belonged to London, but landed in Halifax about three months previously on one of the Allan steamers. David Fisher and his son James,

were also taken into custody on suspicion, but were afterward released, they having had no knowledge of the crime until the discovery on Monday.

The conduct of Stanley (or Kavanagh, which he claims is his proper name), was extraordinary. He remained around the scene of the crime, and it seems certain he passed all Friday night in Harvie's house.

There was considerable carousing among the persons in the house Saturday afternoon by Kavanagh, David and James Fisher and Edgar McCarthy. This occurred in the kitchen, while in the cellar just below, the bloody and headless corpse of Freeman Harvie was lying. These orgies were kept up till midnight.

The police found a blood-stained knife and a hand-saw. After his arrest Stanley tried to put the blame on the Fishers.

On February 8 the newspapers mentioned that Stanley was wanted in Halifax for theft from a trunk in a house where he was boarding on Smith street. While in Halifax Stanley went by the name of John Ryan. He borrowed several sums of money from his fellow boarders. He told many "fairy" stories about being heir to a large estate, and that his monthly remittance had in some unaccountable way been lost in the mails. He got his fellow boarders to write letters for him to supposed rich relatives in New York and other places.

He claimed he was a tailor by trade, and although he got several positions

he did not keep them more than half a day. An occupant of the house on Smith street had met Ryan on a steamer coming from England, and as he was a stranger and wanted a quiet boarding house he was recommended to go to the Smith street house. He did so, and afterward became acquainted with several Halifax people, from some of whom he obtained loans of money. After he rifled a trunk at his boarding house he skipped out and next turned up at Ellershouse.

On February 8 the corner's jury at Windsor found Stanley guilty of Harvie's murder. Mr. Harvie was a married man, but at the time of the crime was living alone. His wife was working in Windsor in order to raise some money to buy things they needed. She visited her husband every fortnight.

At the preliminary examination on February 22 it was shown that Stanley had burned some clothing. On March 1 the accused was committed for trial. The trial was commenced on May 29th before Mr Justice Townshend and the following jury:

Walter Davidson, James Davis, Edmund H. Dimock, Alfred Thomlinson, William White, Junior, Horace Reynolds, William Stevens, Thomas Smith, David Murray, James W. McDonald, William Campbell and William Starratt. William Stevens was foreman.

On the afternoon of May 30 Stanley was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged at Windsor on the morning of August 1st.