

Q. Yes or no? A. Well, I don't know what they saw.

Q. What? A. That is the only thing I could say.

Q. Answer the question? A. No, I could not say.

(Examination concluded.)

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WILLIAM E. FLETCHER, a witness of lawful age, called on behalf of the defense, after having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION.

Q. (By Mr. Brady): How old are you? A. 52 years old, next January.

Q. Where do you work? A. United States Naval Academy.

Q. How long have you been working there? A. 38 years the 2nd of next October.

Q. What is your position there? A. I am a steward.

Q. Where do you live? A. 38 Second street.

Q. What is the position of your house to the late Mrs. Brandon? A. Well, my house is there and the Brandon is like this (indicating) approximately across the street 110 feet.

Q. You recall the day of the finding of Mrs. Brandon's body, dead? A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you go to work that morning? A. Well, as a rule at 6:20 in the morning.

Q. What time did you come back? A. I left the yard a little after nine, nearly half-past nine.

Q. Just state what you did after you left the yard at half-past nine? A. Well, I left the yard at half-past nine, I was driving at that time, I could not walk very well, I had a bad

knee and used to drive to and from my work. I got uptown a little before ten, and Rev. Hughes was on Rev. Williams' porch and I told him that I wanted to see him, that I would be back at 11 o'clock, that I wanted to go over a matter with him; I went up in the back part of my yard, I went up Morris street, drove in back of my house, took the horse out and my boy and myself greased the wagon and hooked up again to another wagon and I had a call to make and I left and when the clock struck eleven o'clock I was hooked up ready to drive out to Morris street, that was right in front of the parsonage, when I drove out and was getting out to fasten the gate behind me, Rev. Williams went in the house off the porch, and I drove up to the side of the curb and Dr. Hughes came to the curb and we had a private conversation.

Q. How long did you talk there? A. Until twelve o'clock, the reason I know I was late getting back, I was not doing any duty, but I was used to getting there on time.

Q. Were you facing West street? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the position of the Brandon house when you were sitting in your carriage? A. I can look at the Brandon house just as you were sitting on this side of the table and I looked in your face.

Q. Could you see the window? A. Yes, sir; the window and the door, because I was in the street and the Brandon house sat a little back from the street, the porch.

Q. Did you hear any unusual noises at the Brandon house, between the time you got there about half-past eleven or 15 minutes after eleven until the time you left? A. I did not.

Q. About how far were you from the window of the Brandon home? A. Twenty feet, because my carriage was in front of the parsonage porch, my horse's head was about to the end of the parsonage, because there was a post there, right along side of that post, that parsonage is twenty-four feet wide.

Q. You heard no noise that would attract your attention there? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you see anyone go in that house? A. I did not.

Q. Did you see anyone come out of that house? A. I did not.

Q. If any one had gone in that house, were you in such a position that you would have seen them?

(Objected to.)

(The Court): Was he in a position to see?

(Mr. Brady): Yes.

(Witness): I was, sir.

Q. Were you in a position to see anyone coming out? A. I was, sir.

Q. When you left Preacher Williams', who did you leave on the porch? A. I left Mr. Williams and Mr. Hughes on the porch, in fact they were there when I came back, I don't know where they had been.

Q. When did you come back? A. Quarter past two, I came up and stopped at the ice house, and got some ice, the reason I know, he asked me why I didn't bring him some.

Q. What time? A. Quarter after two, it was after two, because I went right over to the Government Farm after that.

Q. Did you see whilst you were standing there or did you observe a little boy with a bag of flour on his shoulder? A. I don't recall but one lady that passed, there were lots passed up that side with kettles of beer, and go around that side, but I don't recall seeing anybody passing but one lady, because she never passes without speaking, and I recall her passing while I was there, twice.

Q. I want to ask you, you are familiar with that section of the town, this is the Brandon house and this is the Williams'? A. Yes.

Q. I want to know going toward Pakenback's bakery, what is between there? A. A vacant lot, one now, there was two there, a thirty-foot lot, there was sixty feet there.

Q. Was that, if you know, a common thoroughfare for persons coming from the back of the Brandon home? A. It was, everyone that came out of Acton lane, came out that way, it was a common thoroughfare.

Q. Came across there? A. Came across there, they came up on the parsonage back steps there, they run down there and you came up on Second street.

Q. There is a step right there next to the parsonage? A. There are six or seven steps that run down there.

#### CROSS-EXAMINATION.

Q. (By Mr. Green): You were not paying particular attention to anything that was going on, on the street? A. I would not have to, I was right there.

Q. I am not asking what you have to, were you? A. I was paying attention to what I was doing, no, not paying particular attention to what was going on.

Q. You were in a deep conversation with Rev. Hughes? A. No, they were on the porch and I had to talk from the side of the street to the porch.

Q. I thought you said he came out to the wagon and had a private conversation? A. About ten minutes, when Mr. Williams came out of the house, he went back on the porch.

Q. And that is the only person you recall passing? A. The only one that I can remember of.

Q. You didn't see Snowden? A. I did not.

Q. You didn't see the boy? A. I did not.

Q. Did you see any other wagon on the street while you were there? A. I did not.

Q. No other wagon on the street? A. I did not see any.

Q. Are you sure that you didn't leave there until twelve o'clock? A. I am sure I didn't leave there until twelve o'clock, because I was late getting down.