YOUNG WILLIE SELLS CONFESSES TO HAVE COMMITTED MURDER

Sr. Louis, March 22.-It will be remembered that a year ago this month one of the bloodiest murders, or rather butcheries, of human beings known the to annals of crime was committed near the town of Erie Kan., J. W. Sells, a well-to do farmer, and his whole family, excepting one son Willie, a boy 16 years old, were found murdered, their heads being crushed and their throats cut from ear to ear.

On a chair in the room was found a hatchet and butcher knife helong ing to the family with which the bloody work had been done, and the boy, Willie, was found to be covered with blood from head to foot. Ladies, Hose at 5c per pair. He was accordingly arrested, charged with the crime, and, at the July term of the district court in 1886, was tried convicted of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to be hung, and in conformity to the laws of that state, is at present in the penitentiary awaiting the signature of the governor to the death warrant.

There has always been a great diversity of opinion among the people as to whether Willie Sells committed the murder. On the trial there was no positive evidence, and the state utteriv failed to find any motive for the crime. On the contrary it was proven that Willie was an exceptionally good boy, and that he and his sister Ina were more than commonly fond of each other. The neighbors all swore to the boy's good disposition, and that he was a favorite in the community, while his brother Waty, who was older than he, was not so generally liked.

The matter now, however, seems to be set at rest, for a statement is printed this morning, in dispatches from Erie, that the boy, after sympathetic urging and pressing on the part of Hon. J. H. Woods, his guardian, and his attorneys made a confession which fits so exactly to the facts and circumstances brought out at the trial that it settles the case definitely. The confession is in substance as follows:

"Mother and sister Ina had gone 10 bed. Father, Waty and I were still up when the calves got out and came around the house. Waty sat at the table reading, and tather who had just taken his coat and pants off to go to bed, told Waty to go and put the calves up. He said : Let Willie do it; I won't go out now.' Father said that he should go, and Waty did not want to, and while they were talking ALL ODOFS OF PERFUMERY and SACHET POWDERS. I went out and got the hatchet, which Telephone in the store, and all orders hall was sticking in a log of wood outside the door, and came back to see if Prescription Prepared at all the hatchet to nail up the calf peo. Father and Waty were there quarreling, and had become very mad CITY HALL SQUARE, NEW YORK, When I came in where they were with the hatchet, Waty snatched it out of my hand and struck father several times at last knocking him

I caught hold of the hatchet and jerked it out of his hands, and, striking at Waty, hit him on the head and he fell down on the floor, and I supposed that killed him. Then mother, seeing what was being done, jumped out of bed screaming, and before I thought what I was doing, I struck her. Ina, Starch, my sister, at that moment raised up in her bed and screamed, and I don't know why I did it, but I struck her with the hatchet and she fell back. They were all lying quiet. I took off Fresh. all my clothes except my shirt and drawers, then pulled off Waty's pants raised him up, carried him into the other room and put him into our bed.

"After that I went back and got the hatchet, and pounded his head all to pieces. I felt mad at Waty because he had killed father. I went to the cupboard and got the butcher Telephone Communication knife and cut Waty's head nearly off. Then I went back into the other room and sat down, and I did not know what to do. Then I thought if any of them should come to life they would say I killed Waty, so I took the butcher knife and cut their throats to make sure work of it. I then blew out the lamp and sat down for several hours, but at last could not stand it any longer and again took the lamp and putting ou my clothes, ran over to Mr. Mendali's and told him that some one was at our house with a hatchet and had hurt pa and ma.

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