

Statement of Falsie Burton

Made to J. G. Miller on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Sept

On Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 1870 I was a house servant in the employ of Swenson Oliver of Caswell County N.C. Between sundown and dark Frank Wiley came to Mr Oliver's and tied his horse and came in the house. Several ladies were seated at the supper table. When Wiley came in he was invited to a seat at the table, and Mr Oliver said to him, "you look uncommon well dressed this evening, more so than I have seen you for a long time." Wiley made no reply, but smiled.

As soon as supper was over Mrs Oliver and Mr Oliver went into an adjoining room. About this time Hannah Paris, Elizabeth Perry Oliver and Mary Oliver and myself were standing in the passage and we all heard the following conversation between Oliver & Wiley. Wiley said to Oliver "What time did you leave town?" about an hour was by some replied. Wiley said "that was about the time the good work was done" Wiley said "you ought to

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have staid in town a little longer"  
Clever said "My wife was come-  
-Maisy and there was no one to  
take care of things but the coloured  
people and I was obliged to return  
home"

Heley said, "I have done the best days  
work of my life today We have put  
old Stephens out of the way and the  
negroes will not have the sway here  
any longer"

Clever asked him who all were  
with him.

Heley said "A white man with my-  
-self and one negro-feld from Johnson  
who held the bucket to catch the  
blood.

Clever asked how the blood was  
disposed of.

Heley said we caught it in a bucket  
Hamp Johnson held the bucket  
and then Hamp Johnson put the  
bucket in a bag and took it  
out through the window.

Heley said that Capt. Kean, Jonathan  
Jerry Lea, Maurice Oliver,  
Anderson Saltillo, Dick Yancey,  
Dash Gunn, Thomas Johnson and  
Hamp Johnson were with me

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one other name was mentioned but I do not remember now who it was. Oliver asked Wiley how they got ~~the~~ Steffens in the room. He said he went up in the court room and touched him on the shoulder and whispered to him and told him I wanted to see him and asked him out, he waited all right in a few moments, Wiley said he waited a few moments and then got and started to him and they got up and went down to the wood room together, and when the door was opened and Steffens saw who was there he tried to resist going in. I then gathered him by the right shoulder and left leg and put him in the room and locked the door.

Wiley said he then told him you must give up your principles or your life, and he said he would give up his life before he would give up his principles. He said Steffens asked to see his wife and children and we told him he should not, he said then let me see my house we let him look from the window at his house, and he attempted to

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Hallow, Wiley said he jerked mine  
 back with the rope he then had around  
 his neck. He said he bought the  
 rope from Capt. Mitchell and it  
 was about two yards and a half long.  
 Wiley said that when he was to die  
 he said he believed he would give  
 up his principles and begged for his  
 life like a good fellow.

They said that at this time. So. Kean  
 said "Haw you, you shall not give  
 up now - and plunged a knife  
 into him and took up a stick of  
 wood and beat him on the leg and  
 broke it, then So. Fowler stuck  
 a knife in him into his heart.

Wiley said he propped him down on a  
 table and held him out over the  
 edge so the blood could run into  
 the bucket, and then threw him out the door.  
 When this was done we all went out  
 through the window.

This conversation excited me so much  
 I said to the other servants "There  
 be God" and they heard me and  
 the conversation then ended and  
 Wiley got on his horse and went  
 home.

A few days after this ~~Wiley~~ lives.

called me in his presence  
 and asked me what I said  
 that "There be God" for on  
 the night he and Wiley were  
 talking I told him that Mary  
 was dumping some coffee and  
 burnt herself and that was  
 the reason why I said so.  
 The next day after this Thomas  
 Oliver sent for me to help him  
 work corn one day, and during  
 the day he asked me if I knew  
 any thing about that Stephens  
 matter, I told him I did  
 and he said, if I did I had  
 better hold my tongue, for  
 there were two men not  
 far from there who would  
 cut my throat in ten  
 minutes if I said so.  
 I told him I would have  
 nothing more to do with it,  
 there are many other little  
 things that I do not remember  
 now.

Lyd Palsie<sup>ly</sup> Barton  
 made

Affidavit of Patsie  
Burton before J. G.  
Hester as to Murder of  
J. W. Sleptens

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