Wilmington Journal.

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ELECTIONS TO-DAY.

Elections are held to-day in Ohio, Iowa, and Nebraska. Of course, public interest centers upon Ohio, as upon the result in that State will depend the conduct, and probably the candidate, of both political parties in the next Presidential campaign. If Allen carries Ohio to-day on the greenback platform by a decided majority, we look for a similar Democratic success in Pennsylvania next month, which will force the contrabionists to abandon all idea of controlling the National Democratic Convention, and will secure for the West or Pennsylvania, the candidate for President. How far a different result to-day in Ohio will reverse these opinions will depend upon the Republican majority, and the result of the November elections.

The campaign in Ohio has been probably the most vigorous ever known in that State. The Republicans have had the use of more money, the Democrats have been more enthusiastic and hopeful; both have had the best speaking talent in their respective parties, and the vote will doubtless be the largest ever cast. It would seem to be a death struggle, for upon the result the politics of the State depend for many years.

The Democratic ticket is headed by Governor Wm. Allen for re-election, and General Samuel F. Carey for Lieutenant-Governor. The Republicans present ex-Governor Rutherford B. Hayes for Governor, and Thos. L. Young for Lieutenant-Governor. The Prohibitionists also placed a ticket in the field some time since, with Jay Odell for Governor; but very little has been heard of it lately. Governor Allen was elected two years ago by the small plurality of 817 votes over Governor Edward F. Noyes, who had been nominated by the Republicans for re-election. The total vote for Allen was 214,634; and for Noyes, 213,837. The Prohibitionists then polled 10,084 votes for their candidate for Governor; and there was an independent nomination by what was at the time sportively called the Homeless Party, which polled 9,971 votes. All the other Republican candidates for State offices, except Governor, were elected by majorities ranging from 177, for State Treasurer, to 1,754, for member of the Board of Public Works. For Secretary of State last year the Democrats cast 238,406 votes, the Republicans 221,294, and the Prohibitionists 7,815.

In Iowa the campaign appears to be rather a quiet one. Two years ago the Republican majority was nearly 23,000. Both parties have delared in favor of hard money. A Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Judge of the Supreme Court, Superintendent of Public Instruction, one-half of the State Senate and a full House of Representatives are to be chosen. The Republican candidate for Governor is ex-Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood; the Democratic candidate is the Hon. Sheppard Leffler. The Legislature to be elected will choose a successor to United States Senator Wright, whose term expires in 1877. Here there are constitutional amendments to be voted on. One, if adopted, will give the right of suffrage to women by merely striking out the words "male" in the clause referring to that subject and the others will strike out the word "white" wherever it is applied to citizens.

In Nebraska three Judges of the Supreme Court and six Regents of the State University are to be elected, and a few vacancies filled in the Legislature. The new Constitution is also to be submitted to a vote of the people. The present State government is Republican.

The Duke of Portland is the most eccentric, as well as one of the wealthiest, peers now living. He owns immensely valuable property in London, and his income is at least $5,000 a day. He has a passion for solitude. Though he has two fine houses in Cavendish square, few Londoners have ever set eyes upon him. Even at Welbeck Abbey, where he passes most of his time, he lives so much alone that he will not have any servants to wait upon him at dinner, but has an apparatus by which the table is lowered through the floor to the kitchen when a course is finished. Not that it of [illegible] for the Duke has only two meals a day, at one of which half a bottle is served, and at the other [illegible] other half. Occasionally he has visitors at Welbeck, but he never sees them, though they may be in the house for weeks at a time. When he drives out he is conveyed in a vehicle hung round with curtains, so that nobody can see in, and it is drawn by six Lilliputian ponies. The approaches to the Abbey are subterranean, and there are fifteen miles of tunnels on the estate, all well ventilated, and many of them lighted day and night, and adorned with sculpture. There is a splendid stable, where fifty hunters are kept, though the Duke never hunts. He has a gallery of glass and iron a mile long, where they may exercise in all weathers. The Duke is now constructing three enormous subterranean libraries and a subterranean church, and it has taken the workmen three years to excavate the ground. But that upon which the Duke most prides himself is his museum. It is constructed largely of glass, and lighted by chandeliers, each weighing a ton. It has taken ten years to fix the glass alone, and now the pictures are being hung. They are very choice, as they ought to be, seeing that the Duke some time ago made a huge bonfire of paintings which he did not think good enough, though they had cost many thousand pounds. He has never been married, and it is supposed has never been in love, and, as he is seventy-five now, he is not very likely to be.

The Peabody Fund Trust Company have elected Hon. Henry R. Jackson, of Savannah, to succeed ex-Governor Graham as a member of the Board.

WHAT THE EAST ASKS.

The Raleigh *News* publishes a letter under the above caption so full of valuable information, and which presents the claims of the East for relief at the hands of the Convention in so strong a light, that we make no apology for its publication in full, commending it to general attent on, without knowing who the correspondent is. If our readers think they recognize in the writer an old friend, they will only agree with us.

The *News* says editorially of the letter: "In our issue of yesterday morning there appeared a communication from a distinguished gentleman upon the question now before the Convention, of doing that justice to the East which its condition so imperatively demands. The communication quietly rebukes us for the expression that the utterances of the Eastern journals were imprudent. That expression was only used in one sense. We do consider it imprudent to endeavor to carry by threat that which has not been fairly presented by fact or argument. Men whose minds are arrayed against a measure are little likely to be moved from their position by demonstrations upon their manhood. They are more likely to stand fast, though they be in error.

Our correspondent, as the champion of the East, relieves the demand of all its objectionable features. He presents facts which are undeniable. He arrays statistics which are incontrovertible. He exhibits a strength in the East which had not been acknowledged. And he arrays a force of burdens so unequally imposed, an oppression so systematically devised, a tyranny so ingeniously inflicted, that the country of the East bursts forth as the irrepressible voice of a crushing calamity.

Surely the West will hear, when the East speaks not in the tones of threat, but with the voice of warning; when she presents argument, and not declamation; when she arrays facts and figures, and not vague assertions or random statements. We hope the Convention will heed what has been so forcibly put.

What the East Asks.

RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 5, 1875.

MESSRS EDITORS—You say in your excellent paper of this morning's issue:

"The West will yield to facts and to sympathies where it would not be influenced by threats which some of the Eastern journals have been imprudent enough to utter."

I protest, Messrs. Editors, respectfully but most earnestly against the imputation contained in the above upon the course of the Eastern journals in regard to certain measures of relief asked by the white people of that section at the hands of the Convention now in session. It so happens as you well know, that every county save one in which the negroes have a majority there is a Democratic newspaper. The people in these counties have no representation upon the floor of the Convention, and unless the newspapers published in their midst speak for them they cannot be heard. How far this fact recounts for the liberal support given by such counties to these papers it is not necessary here to enquire. In New Hanover there are two democratic papers, and there is one each in the counties of Edgecombe, Halifax, Craven, Bertie, Warren, Caswell, Granville and Lenoir—all of these counties, save Caswell, without representation in the Convention by reason of their negro majorities.

Now, Sir, what are the threats that Eastern Journals have been imprudent enough to utter in behalf of their poverties and helpless realms? So far as appears they consist of assertions of the vital importance of certain measures of relief and expressions of fear that if they be not granted it will be impossible to bring the white people of the negroes counties to the polls in general elections. There can be no doubt about the sincerity of Eastern journals upon these questions. They know full well, indeed, none know better than they how the corruptions and extravagances of the county government come home to their people, and none know better than they what an intolerable burden and offence to white men negro magistrates are. It has not been a twelve months since a negro magistrate in the county of New Hanover had a white man taken from the jail in which he was confined upon the charge of murder, carried him to the dead body of the murdered man and forced him to touch it, in the belief that if he was guilty, accusing blood would gush forth from the gaping wounds. And the results [illegible] in the office of Register of Deeds in the county of Warren, a section by the largest if not the most intelligent negro population in the State. [illegible] Eastern journals know the facts [illegible] And who said how many. Mr. Editor, are those in the counties of which we have been speaking, who have the power to put an end to these things? According to the best census returns the number of white voters in the following counties, all of which have negro majorities, is as follows:

Bertie	1,228
Caswell	1,510
Craven	2,028
Edgecombe	1,747
Granville	2,506
Halifax	1,469
Lenoir	1,038
New Hanover	2,884
Northampton	1,815
Warren	1,123
	16,847

The aggregate white vote of the State by the same census is shown to be 141,435, so that the white vote of the negro counties constitutes near one-eighth of the entire white vote of the State. With these figures before them, and remembering the results of former general elections, can gentlemen escape the conclusion that any policy that tends to dispirit the white votes of the negro counties is a policy fraught with danger to the Democratic party in North Carolina? Can the Democratic party reasonably count on success in the next general election if there shall be disaffection or even apathy in its ranks in the negro counties? Are not a people who constitute one-eighth of the party entitled to some consideration, and if not, why not? Is it because they are powerless, helpless voiceless? Are not their votes worth as much in an election for a Judge, for a Congressman or for a Governor as the votes of any other eighth of this party? Are they to be forever disfranchised?

But let us look at these disfranchised people from another point of view. If they do not receive their full share of the privileges, they are certainly compelled to bear their full share of the burdens of the government.

The last Auditor's Report shows that for the support of the government of this State $677,062.96 were collected in taxes, of which the ten negro counties named alone paid as follows:

Bertie	$ 7,949.88
Caswell	9,058.79
Craven	12,531.37
Edgecombe	25,472.16
Granville	15,677.98
Halifax	15,763.71
Lenoir	8,911.89
New Hanover	44,859.75
Northampton	11,552.22
Warren	11,312.16
	$215,068.91

So that it appears the white people in these ten negro counties, as represented as they are and powerless, and helpless as they are, pay within a fraction of one fourth of the entire expenses of the State government, for it is well known that negroes pay little or no taxes. Is it wise policy for a white man's party to disregard entirely the wishes of a people who constitute one-eighth of the entire white voters of the State and who pay one-fourth of the entire expenses of running the government of the state? Surely not. And when journals published in the midst of these people are supported and sustained by the press generally in the expression of their fears that unless the particular relief desired shall be granted that equity if not disaffection will follow among the people with whom they are best acquainted, is it a wise policy to disregard the expression of these journals, or to characterize their statements of facts as imprudent threats?

But suppose, Mr. Editor, that it is not only a threat, but a threat that it is in part but to utter in the sensitive ears of all powerful Western friends, all power if not loss in the Convention, suppose I say that it is a threat for an eastern journal to urge warmly that the present system of electing Magistrates must be changed, on the ground that if the same ailments do not so provoke, the white people of the negro counties will care nothing for their continued existence, and will grow weaker in their attachment for the Democratic party, from whom, it may be permitted to ask, the Eastern journals learn the argument? If I mistake not, it was first heard from Western lips. Have the Democratic gentlemen from the West, who oppose the relief sought for by the East, ever given any other reason for their opposition than the belief that their constituents would not vote for it and would even unite with the Radicals to prevent its accomplishment? And now it come to this that the wishes of Western voters only are to be considered?

It is true that the 29,[illegible] white voters of the counties are represented in the Convention, and that the 28,[illegible] white voters in New Hanover are not represented, but will one white Cherokee vote count in the election for Governor next year, or on the ratification question, as much as two white New Hanover votes? And does it give the people of Cherokee any peculiar weight that they pay toward the expenses of the State government only $2,336.34, while the white people of New Hanover pay $44,630.75? The 648 white voters in the county of Transylvania are also represented, as are not the 2,506 white voters in Granville, and Transylvania pays in taxes $1,946.06, while Granville pays $15,677.98.

But at the next general election will one Transylvania vote avail as much as four Granville votes? Clay county, with its 480 white votes, pays into the State Treasury $711.21, and has a delegate in the Convention. Graham county, with its 2,028 white votes, pays $12,531 into the Treasury, and yet has no voice in the Convention. Alleghany county, with 614 white votes, pays into the State Treasury $1,713.36, and sends a delegate to the Convention. And yet, Edgecombe county, that has 1,747 white votes, and pays into the treasury $25,472.16, enjoys no such privilege. And Surry county, with 1,975 white votes, could raise only $83 for the Democratic party in 1872, and that pays into the Treasury only $5,239.32, has a delegate in the Convention, while the white people of the county of Halifax, who gave 1,651 for the Democratic party in the same election, 1,653 votes, and who pay into the Treasury $15,763.71 have no representation. Where is the justice, the 980 votes in Surry or the 1,651 votes in Halifax?

If it should happen that relief should not be vouchsafed to the East, because of the opposition of those delegates, it would prove an singular coincidence [illegible] who pay $12,531.37 in taxes, who give 2,028 votes, who [illegible] 16,847 votes, who [illegible] 141,435 votes. It would [illegible] no less a strange coincidence [illegible] because [illegible] for the counties of Anson, Chatham, Clay, Surry and Transylvania, with a white strength of 5,848 votes, cast only 2,445 for the candidate for Governor and party for Governor in 1872, while the negro counties of Bertie, Caswell, Craven, Edgecombe, Granville, Halifax, Lenoir, New Hanover, Northampton and Warren, with a white strength of 13,818 votes, cast 12,236 votes for the Democratic party. I cannot believe that the Western gentlemen who oppose the relief sought for by the East have any such purpose in view. But the West should be generous in the Democratic party, if the white men of the negro counties are voted in the same proportion as the white men of the West? Is there any hope of many that does not die in the heavy vote given by negro counties? If anything be asked of the white men of the negro counties, but nothing shall be done for them by the Democratic party, how long can they be expected to remain true to that party?

I sincerely trust, Mr. Editor, that our friends in the Convention will pause and consider before they determine to refuse all relief to the people of the East. The white voters of the East are a noble set of men, but after all they are only men, and it will be a hard for gentlemen of the West to expect a fair vote if the dearest local interest of the East shall be disregarded.

I sincerely trust the experiment of trying to win a Democratic victory, without the enthusiastic support of the white voters in the negro counties will not be attempted. The man who, because of the smallness of the number of the negro counties thinks they can be disregarded, will surely come to grief. It may be they are only ten in number; their white voters constitute one-eighth of the white voters of the State, and they pay within a fraction of one-fourth of the entire expenses of the State, and they will be disregarded at the peril of the man and at the peril of the party so foolish as to attempt it.

I beg pardon, Mr. Editor, for occupying so much of your valuable space, but the importance of the subject, and the facts necessary to be stated, have rendered it impossible to say less.

Yours respectfully,

AN APPEAL FOR THE CONVENTION, AND A SUBJECT OF LOCAL INTEREST.

In addition to the many unanswerable arguments which have been urged upon the Constitutional Convention, setting forth the urgent necessity for that body to take some decisive step for the relief of the Eastern counties from negro rule under the present system of County government, we are enabled to lay before the readers of the JOURNAL one more instance of the oppressive burdens which bear the people of the East down to the very dust.

The following extract from the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners for New Hanover, at their last session, will no doubt be read with astonishment, and with a disposition to inquire into the whole facts of the case:

WHEREAS, An injunction, issued by the Hon. A. S. Seymour, a Judge of the Superior Court, restraining the collection of more than one half of the County taxes, renders it necessary for us to withdraw the aid we have been giving all benevolent societies and churches for charitable purposes.

Ordered, That the Clerk of the Board notify the several pastors and presidents of the societies, that the monthly allowances heretofore granted them for their use is hereby revoked.

It would seem from this preamble and *order*, that the New Hanover Board of County Commissioners has been in the habit, (how long it does not appear), of using the public funds unlawfully, by giving them to *"benevolent societies and churches for charitable purposes."*

The extract given above shows that this unlawful use of the public funds has been of monthly recurrence and under a standing order of the Board. It seems to have been a monthly appropriation of the people's money. And it was not until the Board was restrained by an injunction of the Superior Court, from the collection of an unlawful assessment of taxes, that it found its Treasury would in the future be too much depleted to continue this system of charitable donations.

We are ignorant of what amount of the public money has been thus far squandered and misappropriated. But the amount, if made known to the public, would no doubt astonish the tax payers. While we have been able to get hold of no figures which state absolutely the *sum total* of this new branch of public plundering, the inference, from the figures we do possess, is that the amount which has been devoted to "benevolent societies and churches for charitable purposes" must be large.

Since the new county of Pender was cut off from the county of New Hanover, the whole amount of taxable property in the latter county, as taken from the tax books now in the hands of the Tax Collector, is $6,171,009.

Upon this amount of taxable property, the commissioners proposed to run, and did assess for that purpose, the sum of $83,412.96. But a few of the tax payers of the County, believing that this tax in it was excessive, instituted a legal proceeding and obtained an order of the Superior Court restraining the commissioners from the collection of the excess. The commissioners confess, in their preamble and resolution given above, that this excess amounts to "more than one half" of the amount assessed to wit: $83,412.96, the half of this amount is $41,706.48 which is less than the sum which the restraining order of the Superior Court prevents them from collecting. More than $41,706.48 are, therefore, debarred from influx into the treasury of the commissioners. They find that their means of giving to "benevolent societies and churches for charitable purposes" have, by the action of the Court, been cut short by the handsome sum of more than $41,706.48. The unexpected failure to get into their hands so considerable a sum seems to have upset the equilibrium of the generous hearts of these dispensers of the people's money to "benevolent societies and churches for charitable purposes." The hand of charity that has been regularly extended once a month, is suddenly clenched. And the cause of this change in the hearts of these high moral commissioners is made known to the community by the strange announcement of a preamble and resolution which would not do for the monthly designees to "benevolent societies and churches" suddenly increase with a generosity to the public at large. The commissioners must for a while suppress the relicts of charity bestowed, or the money for the coming year will be short and the stipend must cease for for cease.

But who have been the recipients of this monthly allowance of the public money? What churches and societies are in our midst that annually receive, by monthly installments, the sum of $41,706.48? And where do they find the law authorizing them to give the public money which they force from the people by excessive taxation, to churches and benevolent societies?

This preamble and resolution bring to our nostrils the odor of more corruption than we thought could possibly exist in the chamber of the Board—offensively odorous, though we know that locality to be.

We would be glad to know—since we have been officially informed that the money has been unlawfully squandered—that the churches and benevolent societies had received it. But we have no idea that such is the case. Indeed, we have every reason for believing that this piously charitable preamble was gotten up as a cloak to hide their deeper sin. We have taken the trouble to make some inquiries of the pastors and officers of the churches and benevolent societies. A representative of the JOURNAL, on yesterday called on the pastors and some of the leading members of Front Street Methodist, St. John's Episcopal, First Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal, St. Lutheran and the Catholic Churches, and on the officers of the benevolent society of which Mrs. Kenedy is the head. He exhibited to them the preamble and resolution in question, and asked if members of their respective congregations had been recipients of charity at the hands of the Board of County Commissioners. The answer was invariably in the negative. The above are not all the churches in the county of New Hanover, nor even in city of Wilmington. But the list includes all the *white* churches in the city, and the congrations of those churches comprise a very large majority of all the white church-going people in the county. And yet not one of their pastors has received a cent of this money. We do not believe there is one of them who would have received it, had it been tendered. Certainly not, if he had known it to be unlawful.

This attempt upon the part of the County Board to cover up their tracks with a thin veil of pious fraud, will serve to direct public attention to a closer scrutiny of their conduct, and we trust will lead to the detection of their crime. We have known criminals convicted in a court of justice upon slighter testimony than is afforded even by the record from which our extract is taken.

Will not the Constitutional Convention give an attentive ear to the complaints of the white people of the East when they ask to be relieved from the oppressions of such county governments as now exist? If we are told these governments work well in the West where they have a white majority, we answer, the case is entirely changed in the East where we have a negro majority. In the West the white people levy the taxes, and the white people pay them. In the East the negroes levy the taxes and the white people pay them. And what remedy have we for the frauds perpetrated by these county boards? Take the instance we are commenting upon? What remedy have we? This Board controls the jury box; does any sane man believe that the Commissioners would not so manipulate it as to preclude all possibility of convicting them of any crime they may commit. The constitution and the laws as they now stand, make these Boards powerful for evil, and the white people powerless to remedy that evil.

POOR LITTLE CHARLEY ROSS.

A POSSIBLE CLUE TO THE CHILD—HE IS SAID TO BE LIVING.

Mysterious and Startling Letter to a Former Resident of South Carolina—The Boy Declared to be in England and Well Cared for—Will he be Found?—Mr. Ross Despairing and without Faith in the Confession.

[Correspondence of the New York Herald.]

PHILADELPHIA, October 2.—Early on the morning of the 31st of September Mr. Christian K. Ross stopped at his place of business on his arrival from his home at Germantown preparatory to attending the court where William H. Westervelt's trial for conspiracy in the abduction of his child had but just commenced. Among the letters lying unopened on his desk was one in a dirty envelope. It bore no date, but the outside, which was postmarked Philadelphia, was addressed to "Mr. Ross, 306 Market street." As he read the ungrammatical and cramped scrawl there could be no wonder if the despairing father felt that his stolen child might be within his reach. The words of this extraordinary letter were as follows:

A STARTLING LETTER.

Mr. Ross:—If you will find the address of William or Walter Baker, and let me know through the paper you start have you such a boy Baker the only man who hands I will trace him. You boy is alive, but will take time to get him. Advertise for Walter or William Baker, who worked at George's Station, S. C.; think he is in Philadelphia. I want [illegible] money about it. I want to leave [illegible] and I want you to have [illegible] I know where [illegible] and don't know where he is. N[illegible] Mother. I am the only [illegible] I want to get out of it the best I can.

Don't publish this, but hold quiet and find Baker, and believe me *I know*. When you have found the address of Baker put this in the parsnel column of the Ledger.

Once of the 4 I have found him.

Don't show this to the newspaper man, for I want it quiet, and I will get now. I will you much. I OF THE 4.

THE HANDWRITING.

The handwriting was bold but concealing and irregular, from apparently the work of a non unaccustomed to handling the pen. The paper was large letter size, crumpled and soiled.

PRELIMINARY INQUIRIES.

Although sincerely daring to hope, of course Mr. Ross lost no time in making inquiries for the man who, it was promised, should be the means of bringing to him his son. In the personal column of the Philadelphia Public Ledger of the 5th appeared the following:

WILL WALTER OR WILLIAM BAKER, late of George's Station, S. C., send me his address? C. K. ROSS, 306 Market St.

He had looked through gazeteers and postoffice directories for the place called "George's Station," without success, and finally he went to the Western Union Telegraph Company's office, where he consulted one of the operators who is confidentially intrusted with all business relating to the Ross case. He telegraphed to the Charleston office to know if there was any such office known. The answer came back: "George's Station is on the South Carolina Railroad, between here and Augusta, about forty miles from here. Telegraph office there. Down on the tariff book as 'George's Square.'" Thus much having been learned, the operator at George's Station was communicated with to know if any one bearing the name given in the mysterious letter had ever lived there and what was known of him. Word was returned that there had been a young man of that name there, and the operator clicked over the wires that he would gather what further information he could and send it later.

THE RESULT OF THE PERSONAL.

The result of the "personal" brought to Mr. Ross' store promptly, next morning (the 6th) a young man who said his name was Walter H. Baker, [illegible] Baker: I said if Mr. Ross let me know where you was I would tell him Mr. Ross was. So I will tell him. You have been [illegible] you and you are good [illegible] was down South. You keep me [illegible] so I will follow my [illegible] you all have the honor of finding Charley Ross, as I had a hard [illegible] I want you and no one but you, to go, so I say, you not Mr. Ross either, will ever get him. I will know all about it if you go.

CHARLEY ROSS IS ENGLAND.

Go first to Liverpool; then go to Bradford. He is some there between there and York. He was placed in the hands of a family who now is in there somewhere. These people who calls [illegible] gipsies, but they not gipsies. But there traveling with a wagon where I say. You must go there very careful, or you will not get him. You had better travel as a tramp and overhent every band of gipsies you find in October.

After he was taken we all got skeared and he was left in my care. I did not want to kill him, as Bill Mosher did, for I was in enough sin, and wanted to get out of what I was in. But I am not out of it yet, and will never be contented until the boy is home again. So for God's sake try your best to get him.

HOW TO FIND HIM.

His hair is cut all off close, his skin is dark from being in the sun, and his front teeth is out. His family thinks he is my son, and I told them his mother wanted to get him and to be very careful not to let any body have him, never, or *deth* would be their doom. This funny was in York State when I gave it to them. The head man's name is Gusto, and I heard from him by letter in July or August, I forget which. Mr. Ross and you is all I want to know anything about it.

This what I sign is not my name but by it you will know who I am. The letter I got from Gusto was rote at Bradford, and he said he was going to New Hilton by the way of York.

NELSE BOOTHE.

ANOTHER STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCE.

This was shown at once to Mr. Ross. Its bold statements seemed almost incredible. That this man should circumstantially confess one of the greatest crimes of the age at his very door, seemed past belief. Its own audacity seemed to contradict its truth. Another extraordinary circumstance, taken in connection with this man's avowal, was then revealed by young Baker. He had never attached much importance to it before; but, from recent revelations, it was significant.

On several occasions within the past four months, he had been accosted in [illegible] tion, S. C. He was a man about twenty-four, sunburned, evidently one accustomed to labor with his hands. He subsequently said that his occupation was that of a carpenter. He was of stout build, light complexion, and his appearance not of that kind of men usually styled as "wide awake." These had been inquiry for him, he said, and he was anxious to know what for. Mr. Ross did not immediately explain to him, but holding up the anonymous letter at a distance, so that he could see the handwriting but not the words, said:

"Do you recognize that handwriting?"

"Why, that looks like Nelse Boothe's," he immediately replied.

NELSE BOOTHE.

"Who is Nelse Boothe?" demanded Mr. Ross.

"Why, a man who used to work with me down in South Carolina, getting out barrel staves."

Further questioning brought out the facts that Boothe was from the North; that he sought Baker out when he was down there two years ago, as a fellow-Northerner, and that Baker had procured him work. He called himself Nelson or Nelse Boothe, and Baker did not regard him as "straight" (his expression for implying moral obliquity.) He had been connected with a circus company, he believed, as a strolling mountebank, but was hard up and disreputable. He had proposed to Baker once to rob the village postmaster at George's Station, and to share the plunder. This Baker dissuaded him from, and shortly after the fellow came North, after borrowing some money from him, and he had never seen him since. It appeared that Boothe left South Carolina about three months before the Charley Ross abduction.

YOU MUST FIND THAT MAN.

After listening to this history, Mr. Ross said, "You must find that man. You owe it to yourself and to me. Then he showed him a portion of the extraordinary letter which mentioned his name. After taking his address, Mr. Ross dismissed his visitor, who promised to aid him at all hazards. On the following day (the 7th) this "personal" appeared:

ONE OF THE FOUR—I HAVE FOUND HIM. A SECOND ANONYMOUS LETTER.

Early on the following morning this letter, postmarked "Philadelphia," was delivered from the self-accused kidnapper, showing that his boldness or his knowledge of the inefficiency of the police was so great that he still dared to remain in the city, under their very noses:

Mr. Ross: You should have let me know his address through the Ledger. I have everything ready when I know where he is. Let me know in the Star just his postoffice, or the name and number of the street. You can put it in the "Starbeam" column or the "Personal" column. You are delaying me Hurry up and keep quiet. Let your notice be this way:

* * W. B., —— P. O.,

or the number of the street. Fill the blank with the name or number of the street or city. This must be closed to-morrow, for I must get this man. I will give a full account to [him] but to *no one else*. So make haste.

Accordingly in the Evening Star of that date there appeared the following personal:

* * WALTER BAKER, NO. 1,619 MARKET street, Philadelphia.

This was received too late for the classification, and was published only in the fifth edition of the paper, in an obscure corner, lost among many others so that Mr. Ross had rest difficulty in finding it. Nevertheless Baker came to see Mr. Ross early next morning to know why it had been published. Mr. Ross explained to him; but was much surprised that he should have changed to see it so soon when he himself, who inserted it and looked for it, had the greatest difficulty in finding it. Baker said that the barkeeper at his hotel called his attention to it.

Meanline word had been received from South Carolina that young Baker had lived in George's Station, had got married and run away about nine months ago. He had spent a few months there—first working at his trade and afterward as country schoolmaster. His conduct there was looked into and nothing objectionable was discovered, unless the flight from his wife be so considered.

After leaving Mr. Ross at the door of the Court of Quarter Sessions, where Westervelt was being tried, Baker went to his hotel and there he found the following startling letter in the handwriting of the man whom he believed to be Nelse Boothe.

NELSE BOOTHE'S CONFESSION.

Baker: I said if Mr. Ross let me know where you was I would tell him Mr. Ross was. So I will tell him. You have been [illegible] you and you are good [illegible] was down South. You keep me [illegible] so I will follow my [illegible] you all have the honor of finding Charley Ross, as I had a hard [illegible] I want you and no one but you, to go, so I say, you not Mr. Ross either, will ever get him. I will know all about it if you go.

CHARLEY ROSS IS ENGLAND.

Go first to Liverpool; then go to Bradford. He is some there between there and York. He was placed in the hands of a family who now is in there somewhere. These people who calls [illegible] gipsies, but they not gipsies. But there traveling with a wagon where I say. You must go there very careful, or you will not get him. You had better travel as a tramp and overhent every band of gipsies you find in October.

After he was taken we all got skeared and he was left in my care. I did not want to kill him, as Bill Mosher did, for I was in enough sin, and wanted to get out of what I was in. But I am not out of it yet, and will never be contented until the boy is home again. So for God's sake try your best to get him.

HOW TO FIND HIM.

His hair is cut all off close, his skin is dark from being in the sun, and his front teeth is out. His family thinks he is my son, and I told them his mother wanted to get him and to be very careful not to let any body have him, never, or *deth* would be their doom. This funny was in York State when I gave it to them. The head man's name is Gusto, and I heard from him by letter in July or August, I forget which. Mr. Ross and you is all I want to know anything about it.

This what I sign is not my name but by it you will know who I am. The letter I got from Gusto was rote at Bradford, and he said he was going to New Hilton by the way of York.

NELSE BOOTHE.

ANOTHER STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCE

This was shown at once to Mr. Ross. Its bold statements seemed almost incredible. That this man should circumstantially confess one of the greatest crimes of the age at his very door, seemed past belief. Its own audacity seemed to contradict its truth. Another extraordinary circumstance, taken in connection with this man's avowal, was then revealed by young Baker. He had never attached much importance to it before; but, from recent revelations, it was significant.

On several occasions within the past four months, he had been accosted in [illegible] per, who would ask if his name was Baker, and if he had lived in South Carolina. Upon his answering "yes" to both questions, the man would quickly disappear. This had happened repeatedly, he said, and whenever he had been able to stop his questioner and demand his reason for wanting to know, the stranger would always refuse to talk further. It was always a different man who approached him, he declared. That day, he said, he had seen Boothe in Washington square, unobserved by him, he thought, and had followed him to a drinking saloon, where he had lost his trail.

MAKING A PERSONAL INTERVIEW.

Mr. Ross immediately prepared a "personal" for the Evening Star, in presence of Baker, and signed it with his name, as follows:

* * —Should like to have a personal interview with you. W. T. B.

This publication promptly brought the following response, addressed to young Baker:

NOT TO BE SOUGHT.

I see your notice to-day in Star. I won't come and see you. You are putting a job upon me. I won't write no more, so that ends it. You will find the boy where I say, and by the name you get this I will be in York (meaning New York, probably.) I get money, and you can't catch me in no trap. Do as I say and you will succeed. Some detective has put you up to this. What I have said is true, so help me God.

You can't know any more if you see me, for I don't know. You want to see me only to coop me. You will never see me again. So good-bye. I didn't think you would try that game after I told all. I am the only one who knows where he is.

NELSE B.

This was the work of the same hand but it was more scrawled than the other letter, and the latter portion was so blotted as to be undecipherable.

A SINGULAR SUMMONS.

On his way home from work that evening young Baker was crossing Walnut street, at the corner of Nineteenth street, at dusk. He was hailed by a man accompanied by a woman. Both were entire strangers to him. The man said: This is Mr. Baker, formerly of South Carolina, I believe?

Mr. Baker replied, "I am, but as you have the advantage of me, may I ask your name?"

The stranger answered, "It is not necessary for you to know. Somebody wishes to see you on business of importance to-morrow morning at the West Philadelphia depot, between seven and nine o'clock. Will you please make it convenient to be there?" Baker said he would, but wanted the name of the person. The stranger told him that he would recognize the man at once when he saw him. He refused to answer any further questions, and he and his companion were soon lost in the crowd.

Young Baker sent to Mr. Ross, through his employer on South street and asked an uncle, who is employed by E. C. Eby & Co., wholesale grocers of 520 Market street, to go with him to the place of meeting. His uncle did not arrive there until half past 7 o'clock and was just too late. Mr. Ross did not receive word in time to have a detective on the spot, and the man of course escaped. While Baker was looking for the man who had so mysteriously summoned him, his South Carolina acquaintance grasped his hand, saying: "I am the man who wants to see you." Baker asked why he had sent for him, and he answered that it was because he had been a friend to him when he needed one, and he was determined not to tell his story to any one else. He then hurriedly repeated mainly what he had told Mr. Ross about he stolen child being alive and well and at the place in England which he had mentioned. He implied that he expected Baker to turn this information to account in a pecuniary way, and that he had confided in him to show his gratitude for the kindness he had shown him, for when Baker asked him about the return of some money he had advanced him, he intimated that he could make "a good thing" out of the return of Charley Ross and pay himself several times over. In the midst of the conversation the whistle blew and the train started. The man jumped aboard, bade him good bye, said something about going far away where it was useless to look for him, and was seen no more.

YOUNG BAKER DISAPPEARS.

Young Baker reported what had taken place to Mr. Ross, and gave as good a description of the man as he was able. Mr. Ross told him that he might wish [illegible] On the 18th [illegible] young Baker told him [illegible] was going into the city to attend to a job of work at his trade, which might employ him all winter. He did not give his address would be at a certain village not far from Philadelphia, and that letters would reach him there. Mr. Ross has written to him at the place mentioned, but has had no reply, and young Baker has not been heard from since he left this city. In face, his disappearance seems to be as complete as that of the self-accused villain who kept possession of Charley Ross, the most diligent search for miles about the neighborhood of the village he went to failing to discover his whereabouts. Mr. Ross' letter still remained uncalled for at the postoffice on Saturday afternoon last, and in a day spent in walking and riding through that part of the country I failed to strike his trail or hear any tidings of him. He has another uncle in this city besides the one alluded to—Mr. Sylvester J. Baker, of the firm of Bullitt & Crenshaw, druggists, on Arch street—but neither of them knows of his whereabouts, nor does his father, who is a farmer at a certain place not many miles away, unless he has found out very recently.

A PITABLE FIGURE.

This is the story of the latest clue in the boldest and cruelest crime of the age. It should not be a matter of surprise that the father does not venture to hope that his child can be restored to him in the manner described in these startling letters. This story is only one of fifty that have seemed almost as probable, and that have inspired him with hope for a few brief days, only to end in a heart sickening disappointment. The public never has known, and never will know, the terrible experiences through which this stricken man is struggling. Only a very few know how continuous and insupportable is the burden he bears; how his feelings are played upon, his time taken up with unrewarded toil, his impoverished means made the object of blackmailers' greed; his business ruined, himself poor, his whole time given up to the hopeless search for his missing boy; to hope against hope; to have a glimmer of light one day and to be buried in the darkness of despair the next; to see the worst side of human nature; to be called suddenly to take long and tiresome journeys, which end in nothing; to know no rest nor peace; to suffer the tortures of unending suspense—these are some of the

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One [illegible]

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RAILROADS

WILMINGTON COLUMBIA AND AUGUSTA RAILROAD CO.

OFFICE OF GEN'L SUPERINTENDENT.
WILMINGTON, N. C., July 1, 1875.

CHANGE OF SCHEDULE

On and after Sunday, July 4th, the following schedule will be run on this road:

NIGHT EXPRESS AND PASSENGER TRAIN, (Daily).

Leave Wilmington	6.25 P. M
Leave Florence	10.20 A. M
Arrive at Columbia	4.15 A. M
" Augusta	8.45 A. M
Leave Augusta	4.15 P. M
Leave Columbia	8.15 P. M
Leave Florence	1.10 A. M
Arrive at Wilmington	7.10 A. M

Passengers going West beyond Columbia will take this Train, leaving Wilmington at 6.25 P. M.

Day Passenger Train Daily (except Sunday.)

Leave Wilmington	6.30 A. M
Arrive at Florence	12.05 P. M
Leave Florence	12.45 P. M
Arrive at Wilmington	6.25 P. M

Connects at Florence with N. E. Trains for Charleston, and with Freight Train with Passenger Coach attached for Columbia on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

THROUGH FREIGHT TRAIN, (Daily except Sundays.)

Leave Wilmington	1.55 P. M
Leave Florence	1.40 A. M
Arrive at Columbia	9.00 A. M.
Leave Columbia	5.30 P. M.
Leave Florence	4.40 A. M
Arrive at Wilmington	7.10 P. M

LOCAL FREIGHT TRAINS, with PASSENGER COACH attached, Leave Wilmington Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 8.00 A. M. and arrive at Wilmington on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 5.15 P. M.

Passengers for Charleston, Columbia and Augusta and beyond, should take night Express train from Wilmington.