

**P**ERSONAL. — INFORMATION  
WANTED of JOHN PERRY, a colored boy,  
about nine years of age, formerly slave of John  
MacFarland, of this city, and sold in the summer of  
1864, by Mr. Robert H. Davis, of this city, to a gen-  
tleman in Alabama. Any information as to his pre-  
sent whereabouts will be thankfully received by  
his mother. Address KATY PERRY,  
care Mrs. A. Nesbitt, Richmond, Va.

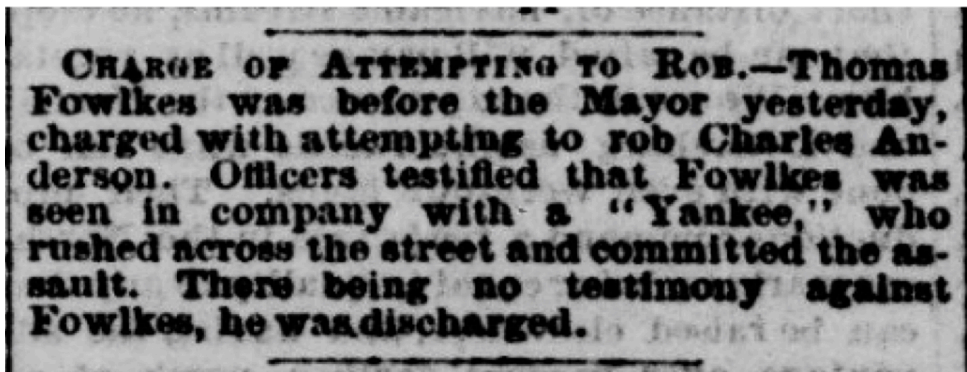
PERSONAL. — INFORMATION

WANTED of JOHN PERRY, a colored boy,  
about nine years of age, formerly slave of John  
MacFarland, of this city, and sold in the summer of  
1864, by Mr. Robert H. Davis, of this city, to a gen-  
tleman in Alabama. Any information as to his pre-  
sent whereabouts will be thankfully received by  
his mother. Address KATY PERRY,  
care Mrs. A. Nesbitt, Richmond, Va.

Published December 27, 1865  
*The Daily Dispatch*  
Richmond, VA  
Page 2, column 3  
[www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)

WRITING PROMPT:

Picture a newspaper office where the job of a clerk (probably a young man) is to greet the public. In walks two women (one named Katy Perry and the other, Mrs. A. Nesbitt) asking to place this personal ad. Imagine you are either the clerk or one of these two women. Or change "Mrs." to "Mr." and imagine you are Mr. Nesbitt and you've come into this office with Katy Perry. What clothes are you wearing? What do you say and do? Write the conversation and make up the missing details, including sound, touch, smell, and taste.



**Charge of Attempting to Rob. –** Thomas Fowlkes was before the Mayor yesterday, charged with attempting to rob Charles Anderson. Officers testified that Fowlkes was seen in company with a “Yankee,” who rushed across the street and committed the assault. There being no testimony against Fowlkes, he was discharged.

Published December 27, 1865  
*The Daily Dispatch*  
Richmond, VA  
Page 1, column 5  
[www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)

CHOOSE ONE and write a scene using dialogue and description, including sensory details (sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste):

1. Imagine you are the Charles Anderson mentioned in this article, and you’ve made up the accusation against Fowlkes because you hate his “Yankee” friends. The Richmond police officers go along with you. Write the courtroom scene from your point of view as you appear before the Mayor. Make up the missing details.
2. Imagine you are Thomas Fowlkes, wrongfully charged with a crime, and you suspect that the reason is because your friends are “Yankees.” Write the courtroom scene from your point of view as you defend yourself. Make up the missing details.

A small boy, named Thomas Doland, who has already appeared several times before the Mayor's Court, was charged with the theft of brass from the Tredegar Iron Works and selling it to Mr. William A. Parr. The party purchasing the brass from Doland acknowledged having done so, but thought it had been honestly obtained, and therefore did not think he was doing wrong. In consideration of his extreme youth and the non-appearance of any parties claiming the ownership of the property alleged to be stolen, his Honor discharged Doland with a reprimand.

A small boy, named Thomas Doland, who has already appeared several times before the Mayor's Court, was charged with the theft of brass from the Tredegar Iron Works and selling it to Mr. William A. Parr. The party purchasing the brass from Doland acknowledged having done so, but thought it had been honestly obtained, and therefore did not think he was doing wrong. In consideration of his extreme youth and the non-appearance of any parties claiming the ownership of the property alleged to be stolen, his Honor discharged Doland with a reprimand.

Published December 19, 1865  
*The Daily Dispatch*  
Richmond, VA  
Page 1, column 2  
[www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)

WRITING PROMPT:

Imagine you are Thomas Doland, standing with Mr. William Parr in a courtroom. The judge asks questions and you answer them. How do you feel? Where do you cast your eyes? What clothes are you and Mr. Parr wearing? What do you say and do? Make up the missing details, including dialogue and description (sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste).

### Narrow Escape from Death.

On Sunday, 6th inst., at about 10 o'clock, A. M., Dr. W. F. Carrington's carriage, containing his lady and son Austin (a naval cadet,) and the driver, was precipitated into Staunton river, at Coles's Ferry, Halifax county.

Mr. Benward's ferry-boat was tied up to the Halifax shore to a stake too small for the purpose; so that when the front wheels of the carriage struck the boat the stake broke and the boat floated from under the horses, leaving them in the river. The frightened animals plunged forward at once into deep water.

Then commenced a scene so thrilling that

#### A SHOUT OF HORROR

went up from the lookers on. The brave young cadet, Austin, having torn open the top of the carriage, dragged the almost lifeless form of his mother out of the water and stood supporting her in his arms as they floated down the river. Just at this juncture Dr. Carrington reached the scene, springing into the boat pursued and caught up with the carriage just in time to rescue from a watery grave his wife and son, and also the driver, Sam'l Watkins (a colored man,) whose cool bravery on the occasion deserves special notice.

### Narrow Escape from Death.

On Sunday, 6th inst., at about 10 o'clock, A. M., Dr. W.F.Carrington's carriage, containing his lady and son Austin (a naval cadet,) and the driver, was precipitated into Staunton river, at Cole's Ferry, Halifax county.

Mr. Benward's ferry-boat was tied up to the Halifax shore to a stake too small for the purpose; so that when the front wheels of the carriage struck the boat the stake broke and the boat floated from under the horses, leaving them in the river. The frightened animals plunged forward at once into deep water.

Then com-

menced a scene so thrilling that

#### A SHOUT OF HORROR

went up from the lookers on. The brave young cadet, Austin, having torn open the top of the carriage, dragged the almost lifeless form of his mother out of the water and stood supporting her in his arms as they floated down the river. Just at this juncture Dr. Carrington reached the scene, springing into the boat pursued and caught up with the carriage just in time to rescue from a watery grave his wife and son, and also the driver, Sam'l Watkins (a colored man,) whose cool bravery on the occasion deserves special notice.

Published July 15, 1873  
*Staunton Spectator*, Staunton, VA  
Page 1, column 6, loc.gov

### WRITING PROMPT:

Imagine you are one of the people in this scene (Austin, Dr. or Mrs. Carrington, Samuel Watkins) and write what happened from your point of view. What clothes are you wearing? What do you say and do? Use dialogue and description, including sensory details (sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste). Make up the missing details.