

The Nation.

June 22, 1927

Negro Boy Runaway

A small colored boy about 14 years old ran away from his home near Stapleton Jan. 4th. Anyone seeing him will please notify me and hold him until I arrive. I will pay reward. I object to anyone using him.

Roy Haines, Stapleton, Ga.

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THE INTERESTING LITTLE ADVERTISEMENT printed above was not, devoted reader, taken from the *Richmond Enquirer* of, say, May 2, 1849, or even the *Charleston Courier* of possibly April 16, 1855. One of those worthy papers has long since gone to its reward, and the other has changed its name. But on January 27, 1927, which, if we are not taking leave of our senses, is the current year, the *Jefferson Reporter*, a weekly, published at Wrens (population about 1,500), Georgia, carried, without comment, the item we reproduce. It has been suggested that it was the plea of an irate father for his son, and as such faintly justifiable. We doubt it. It may have been the request of some one who never heard of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States. We doubt that, too. In Georgia, as in other parts of the South, these amendments are not unknown. But systematically, repeatedly, in the most diverse and ingenious ways, and with a persistence that would do credit to a far better cause, they are ignored.