

lathe under a microscope, gave his opinion that it was not her hair.<sup>5</sup> Other witnesses said they thought they saw blood on the floor near the dressing room, at which place Conley said he dragged the body, and that it was not there on Friday.<sup>6</sup> Other witnesses who examined the floor said the spots looked like blood stains, but they were not sure,<sup>7</sup> and there was testimony that there were frequent injuries at the factory, and blood was not infrequent. A part of what they thought to be blood was chipped from the floor and Dr. Claude Smith testified that on one of the chips, he found under a microscope, from three to five blood corpuscles, but he could not say that it was human blood.<sup>8</sup>

Near the body in the basement there were found two notes in a negro's handwriting, one written on brown paper and the other on a leaf of scratch pad. That written on white paper contained these words: "He said he would love me, laid down play like the night-witch, did it, but that long tall black negro did boy hisself." On the brown paper, which was the carbon sheet of an order blank, was written the following: "Mam that negro fire down here did this when i went to make water and he push me down a hole a long tall black negro did (had) it. i right while play with me."<sup>9</sup>

But the startling evidence, and that upon which the conviction of Frank was based was that given by a dissolute and good-for-nothing negro, Jim Conley, a man 27 years of age, and one who had frequently been in the chain-gang. Conley had worked at the factory for about two years, and in the basement about two months, and had run the elevator, also. The detectives learned, about the middle of May, that Conley could write, although at first he denied it. He made, before the trial, one statement and three affidavits about his connection with the matter.

<sup>5</sup> This opinion seems to have been given later on a motion for a new trial.

<sup>6</sup> R. P. Barrett, *ante*.

<sup>7</sup> J. N. Starnes, *post*, p. 192; J. L. Beavers, *post*, p. 199.

<sup>8</sup> *Post*, p. 200.

<sup>9</sup> *Post*, p. 244.