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“POLICE

WANDSWORTH - On Saturday John Beazley, a lad 16 years of age, was charged with having, with four other boys not in custody, attempted to commit gross outrage on Louisa Powell, a girl 13 years of age. The attempt was made on the 10th instant, and although the police, it is said, were aware of the fact the next day, no steps were taken by them in the matter, which would probably not have been made public had not Woolgar, the parish constable of Wimbledon, waited on Mr. T. Paynter, the sitting magistrate at this court, with the girl.

Mr. Paynter having heard her statement, issued a warrant for their apprehension, but only the prisoner and a boy, eight years of age, who was discharged, have been yet taken.

The complainant stated that she lived in Dog and Duck-court, Wimbledon. On Monday, the 10th instant, her aunt sent her with her little sister to Wandsworth. On their return across Wimbledon-park, between 5 and 6 o'clock, p.m., near to the park-keeper's house, she saw the prisoner and four other boys sitting by the side of the carriage-road, who, as she passed, used improper language to her. The prisoner, with the other boys, then threw her down, and he and another boy attempted to commit gross outrage upon her; she screamed out, and at last they let her go, but not until they had smeared her with blackberries and much ill-used her. The sister corroborated her evidence, and a boy named Cooley, living at Wandsworth, proved meeting the prisoner on the day in question, who told him he had served out a girl in Wimbledon-park.

The prisoner was committed for trial for the attempted violation."