

A gang of notorious robbers, whose haunts have been on the Arkansas shore of the Mississippi, has recently been broken up by the citizens of Tennessee, residing in the vicinity.—The annexed account of the proceeding is given in the Randolph (Tenn.) Recorder of the 21st ultimo:

ARKANSAS ROBBERS.

Expedition against the Arkansas Banditti—Twenty prisoners taken—Administration of Lynch's law, &c &c.

Our peaceful town presented last week, more the appearance of a war camp, than the abode of peace. An expedition, composed mostly of our chief citizens, "thrice armed, their quarrel being just," set out from this place to take or ex-

terminate a gang of lawless freebooters, infesting the Arkansas shore of the Mississippi for some hundred miles, who have been for several years past, committing continual depredations upon the lives and property of individuals on the river and in this State, and becoming at length so bold as to require the measures adopted by our citizens for the preservation of their lives and property. Their last depredation was their seizing, some 12 or 20 of them, a flat boat owned by Mr. Wm. Mitchell, of May's Lick Kyd, laden with flour and whiskey, that had stranded on a sand bar about 12 miles below this town; one or two of them standing over the boatmen with leveled rifles, while the rest plundered the boat, and took on, in other boats, what they could conveniently remove. Horses, negroes, cattle, and every species of property is their prey; and such is their adroitness, and so im-

pregnant their marshy skulking places, as to make their detection almost impossible, burying themselves when pursued, in the most impervious cane brakes. This last audacious wholesale robbery, aroused our citizens, many of whom have suffered by counterfeit money and property stolen, to march against them armed with rifles.

The robbers held their head quarters about 25 miles below this town, at a place called the Shawnee village; thither about 30 of our citizens went fully anticipating a warm reception, but returning without battle, after burning two or three crazy cabins, bringing with them 8 or 10 prisoners. The next morning the citizens of Covington came in to the number of 40 or 50, gloriously armed, determined to carry on a searching operation among the canebrakes.—

Accordingly they boarded a flat, well provided with blankets and provision for a campaign, and floated down the stream same way as when they went to fight Packenham. After scouring the country for a day or two, they returned with 12 or fifteen prisoners, some of whom were engaged in the robbery, some known to be rogues of deep dye, and others refugees from justice.—

Scouting parties were kept up for a week, returning daily with victorious trophies of fresh prisoners or recovered property. Two or three guns only were fired by the party, at some of the robbers as they were breaking for the cane brakes. One of the boatmen that is supposed to have stranded the boat in order that it might be plundered, was found dead in the canes, whether he had fled, the victim of dishonesty, hunger and mosquitoes. The prisoners were brought before Magistrates, who sent seven of them off to jail, some were discharged, and no proof being found against them 4 or 5 of the most noted villains among them, they were very politely escorted back to Arkansas by Sheriff Calmes & some of our citizens, under its shady banks were so delighted at being the happy recipients and backers of Lynch's law, as to pipe and dance most melodiously. Indeed they "disdained most eloquent music," which upon our own ear soothed by a voyage across the water of upwards of a mile. After being amused a while in this manner by our Sheriff, they departed on their way rejoicing with feelings not soon to be forgotten. One villain named or pronounced Geno, after being stripped for the dance, howled and begged so pitifully, that although his back bore striped evidence of his having before danced around the whipping post, he was spared the lash, and taken back, as he promised to divulge secrets of importance. But finding he could be of little service in this capricious, he was suffered to return to Arkansas, where his fellow robbers, for his faithlessness and cowardice at Lynch's altar, stripped him, tied him to a tree, and gave him a "smart sprinkling" of the lash themselves. Since, this same Geno, with a companion, robbed a Tennessee man about 30 miles from this place, of about \$20, and tied him to a tree and whipped him severely—they have been pursued, but without success.

This district of Arkansas is so sparsely populated and wild, that justice cannot reach these freebooters, and it is said that even the county officers participate in the profits of the plunder.

One scene occurred in the expedition which brought back the days of Rob Roy McGregor among the Highlands of Scotland. The second excursion of our citizens the robbers were prepared for and had somewhat concentrated. To reach the Shawnee village, the bank is to be as- cended, and a narrow defile cut through the cane, to pass through. While entering this lane, the gentleman in advance discovered a man in ambush, who instantly uttered a shrill

whistle and a dozen unbroken firelocks were soon heard to spring back their locks. The gentleman knowing the man he saw, spoke to him in a manner that induced him to rise with his companions, who were determined, in case of being harmed to kill all they could.

It is to be hoped, that the robbers may have all been taken or driven off, as our citizens are determined, if compelled, to take the law into their own hands.

Col. Stephen W. Foreman, a noted counterfeiter, who broke St. Lewis jail, about four months since, was taken at the village, and the

sheriff of St. Lewis county came and escorted him back to his old lodgings.

Much credit is due Capt. Johnson, of the steamboat Kentucky, for the assistance he rendered in taking the prisoners, and for his generosity and humane deportment while taking part of our citizens to the village free of expense.

Capt. Miner of the steamboat Tennesseean also brought our citizens home from Memphis free of charge, for which, together with his kind attention and gentlemanly deportment, he will receive their warmest thanks.

The citizens of Memphis will also receive the best wishes of those whom they so generously and hospitably entertained while among them.

THE CONSTITUTION'S FIGURE HEAD.

It is now in our power, says the New York Gazette, to add precise information, derived we think from a correct source. We give the facts in as few words as possible; and they are so clear, that we cannot withhold our belief of their accuracy.

The truth, then, according to our information is, that the young man, who is only eighteen years of age, and who had the hardihood, of his own accord, to saw the head off the image, is now in this city, and feeling safe, has given the following particulars:

"On the evening of the third of July, during the storm, I went to work to effect an object, which I promised myself the completion of before the celebration of American Independence.

"I had my boat, saw, anger, and cordage, all prepared. I left my mother's house, who keeps sailor boarders, in — street, Boston, at 9 o'clock in the evening. I was not long in reaching the bow of the Constitution. I made my boat fast to the cable of the ship, allowing sufficient scope to my bow fast to let the boat drift exactly under the vessel's bow, where, from the course of the wind, I was sure she would lie until I got through with my work. I then took my saw, anger and a coil of rope over my shoulders, quit the boat, and ascended the cable of the ship, and, without much difficulty, soon had my arms round the old gentleman's neck. Having firmly fixed myself, I bored a hole through the head of the image, passed a rope through it, made fast and then, with the use of my saw, I went regularly to work. In about an hour, the head fell into the water, but it was prevented from floating away by my precaution of securing it in the way above described. I immediately descended the rope to which the head was appended, and found that my boat had nearly filled with water, from the sprays against the bow of the ship; but I got in her, hauled in the head of the Hero, cut the fastening, and drifted with the wind and tide, without noise, until I reached the shore. I then landed, dug a hole, and buried my prize, which probably, will be exposed to sight after the first high tide and storm, as I had not time to deposit it very remote from the common high water mark.

"By this time, I was very wet, and much fatigued, and I made the best of way home. The next morning before I was out of my bed my mother heard that Jackson's head had been cut off; and, having observed the stairway wet, she immediately suspected that I had done the job. The old lady was so much alarmed, and so anxious for my escape, that I confessed my guilt. She immediately gave me some money, and recommended me to make my escape. I took the money, and was off in less than no time I need not say how I got to New York; but here I am, and willing to take my oath that no human being prompted me to this act of mischief."

[It will be seen by this plain statement of facts, that all the surmises connected with a transaction, which has elicited so many conjectures, are completely knocked in the head.—N. Y. Gazette.]

ROPER VERSUS SMITH.

A democratic editor named Roper, representing himself as a protege of Ritchy, of the Richmond Enquirer, is about establishing a Van Buren paper at Wheeling, Va. It is said that he has in his pocket, a commission for the Office of Post Master at the later place, and the promise of the public printing of the western district of the state of Virginia. Perhaps some of our country friends in the neighborhood of Elizabethtown, in this county, may recollect a gentleman of the "rule and birch," who used to play pedagogue in the village—if not, I am sure that the patrons of the Statesman, formerly published at Lawrenceburg, Indiana, will hold in lasting remembrance; this Smith, alias Roper, for the dishonesty of his course while conducting that paper.

Mr. Roper purchased the Statesman on a credit—never paid for it—ran largely in debt—left his endorsers to pay his notes—and, rumor says, received two hundred and fifty dollars for destroying the character of the paper, by partisans opposed to the politics it espoused. This much is certain, Mr. Smith transferred the paper to the present proprietor of the "Indiana Whig," by whom the title was changed, with the privilege of finishing out the current volume, which had some six or seven weeks to run. About two weeks previous to the time of its transfer, he came out with a flaming editorial, renouncing his opposition to the principles of the administration, and espousing the cause of President Jackson, and that too, long after he had disposed of the establishment to a gentleman of the same politics that he had professed. So much for Mr. Smith's honesty.

Again, on his arrival at Washington city, we are informed by a member of Congress, that he called on an honorable member of Congress, from Indiana, requesting from him an introduction to Mr. Van Buren, as he had a letter for the Vice President; he was particular in the request, to be known as Mr. Roper. As the gentleman had

only known him with the cognomen of Smith, he prudently declined any honor derived from such an introduction.

"This is the 'democratic' organ for Western Virginia!"

Cincinnati Advocate.

Among the acts passed at the Legislature of New Hampshire, was one declaring that no assignment of his property by a debtor for the benefit of his creditors shall be valid, unless it shall provide for the distribution of the property assigned among all his creditors in proportion to their respective claims; nor unless the assignee shall make out that his intention was to place in the hand of his assignee all his property of every description except such as is exempted by law from attachment and execution.

Spurious Gold coin.—We were informed yesterday by a respectable Broker of this city, that quantities of spurious gold coin are in circulation. They are said to be extremely well executed and calculated to deceive the best judges. Several storekeepers have expressed to us their determination to receive no gold pieces in consequence of the great difficulty in detecting at tempest imposition.—*Phil. Gazette.*

Another pet Bank.—The bank of Moyamensing situated in the outskirts of Philadelphia, with the huge capital of 125,000 dollars, and with alacrity of Gov. Wolf, and Doctor Soherland at either end of its notes, has been selected as the bank for receiving the public deposits. No other Bank would receive the public deposits, after the Girard bank gave them up as a bad job, and hence this "selection." In every possible view of the question, and touch where it may, the experiment of the removal of the deposits, contrary to law and right, has been an unhappy one.—*Baltimore Patriot.*

What does this mean?—The vector of the Mint announces that on the new gold coin, the *Cap of Liberty*, is taken from the figure, and the motto, "Ephuribus unum," the declaration of union, is omitted. Have our rulers acquired so much boldness as to develop their plans on the coin of the country? Is the *Cap of Liberty* to be struck—is our Union to be dissolved? We wait for an explanation of these things.—*N. Y. Star.*

The late governor Penn, who died a short time since, at his seat, Stoke park, Bucks, England, at an advanced age, had an hereditary pension on the Consolidated Fund of 3,000/- per annum, granted on a Parliamentary compensation to the Penn family, to indemnify them for the loss of territorial rights in Pennsylvania, consequent on the separation of the American colonies from the English Government.

Free Masonry in England.—The Manchester Guardian announces that a circular has been received by the Masonic Lodge at Bury, and probably by those of other places, requiring them to make a return to the Clerk of the Peace of the name, employment, or profession, and place of residence of every member, in default of which they will be declared an unlawful secret society. The circular is signed by the Grand Master, the Duke of Sussex. This is understood to be a step taken in contemplation of putting down all spurious lodges, whether of Trades' Unions or Benefit Societies.

A most diabolical act was committed at Farmville, Va. on the 24th ult. It is stated that the boarders and travellers who dined at the Eagle Tavern on that day, were all poisoned by eating custard, in which it is supposed arsenic had been put by the cook or house servants. There were one or two who did not eat of the custard, and consequently escaped. About forty persons were sick from the effect of the poison; some were dangerously ill, and one had died.

To use a low commonality of expression, money is "as plenty as black berries" in this region, and indeed, rather more so, for of the latter there is not even the counterfeit. Of bank bills, however, we have little need to complain, if spurious issues can give satisfaction. Of the counterfeits, three on the bank of Lancaster, Ohio, are in most general circulation, we believe in this portion of the State, and should receive scrupulous attention, from those particularly who are not in the habit of daily handling paper money. Some heavy impositions have been recently practised upon unsuspecting individuals, in this neighborhood, with bills of this description.—*Heavy*, we say—not to the amount of hundreds and millions, but heavy in proportion to the abilities of those upon whom the losses have fallen. These are the times in which honest people should can well the paper they receive in payment of dues.—*Urbana, Ohio Col.*

Women at home.—I am an old fellow said Cowper the poet, when writing to a young friend, and once had my dancing days, as you have now; but I never found, that I could learn as much of a woman's real character in the ball room, as at home with her by the fireside. We are all good when we are pleased, and she is a good woman, who needs not the fiddle to sweeten her.

How to destroy Moles.—Dr. Bartlett: In the last Planter, it is stated that the Castor Bean will destroy moles. I have tried the red Palma Christi (which some say is the same,) with success, merely by planting a few of the kernels in their paths or ploughed places; also calomel by making holes in grains of corn, and inserting it in the holes and placing the corn in the ground for them. The calomel will not kill them till there comes a rain, when they will be found on the top of the ground.—*Southern Planter.*

PRACTICAL AMALGAMATION.

A gentleman of this city, pretty well known for his zeal in favor of the black and white amalgamation, was a while ago visited by an old acquaintance from the country, who, after sitting till rather late hour, was about taking his leave, when he was politely invited to tarry all night.

"I cannot give you a separate bed," said mine host, "but there is one which will very well accommodate two persons, and it has at present but one in it; —?"

"Sir?"

"A very respectable gentleman, I assure you. If you will be content to share the bed with him, you shall be heartily welcome."

As the hour was rather late, the country gentleman concluded to accept the offer of the city one, and was accordingly shown to his chamber. He was beginning to be very sleepy, and therefore did not examine very critically into the appearance of his bed-fellow, who happened at the time to be lying on the farther side of the bed, with his head enveloped in the sheet.

The gentleman doffed his clothes, blew out his candle, and threw himself into bed. The weather being at that time rather cool, he pressed up close to his bed-fellow, and was presently fast asleep. He passed a delightful night, dreaming that he was in the very puritans of Paradise, and enjoying himself with one of the black-eyed hours. He was getting rapidly into her good graces, into much that he had caught her in his arms, and was about giving her hearty smacks when he awoke and found himself embracing a lusty nigger!

It was broad day-light, and seeing the sooty pliz of his companion, he exclaimed, "The Devil!" and bounded out of bed like a roast chestnut from the fire. He threw on his duds, sprang down stairs at three steps, and without staying to bid adieu to his hospitable entertainer, was soon on his way home, fully satisfied with his share in the business of amalgamation.—*N. Y. Transcript.*

MARRIAGE BY PROXY.

A SAILOR'S WEDDING.

The following circumstance, however, extraordinary and ridiculous it may appear, is communicated as an absolute fact. About six weeks ago a ship came into harbor to be paid off. One of the sailors being ashore, soon prevailed on a young woman to accept of him as a husband, and previous to returning to his ship, left money with a friend to pay for publishing the banns, and all other incidental matrimonial expenses. It was proposed that the marriage should take place on the fourth Sunday following; and on the preceding Saturday the honest tar asked leave of his captain to go on shore, which was peremptorily refused. Jack remonstrated—"Captain," exclaimed he, "I am going to be married to-morrow." The captain told Jack that the business of the ship, in his department, was more urgent, and positively forbade him going on shore. Unwilling to disappoint the girl, and lose his money, Jack wisely determined to marry her by proxy, and proposed to Will Treadway, his messmate, to undertake that kind office: "And you, Will," said he, "stay with her on shore, and when the gang way is cleared from stem to stern, I will come to you." Will goes on shore, and informing the girl of his friend's situation and proposal, she instantly consented, and was actually married to Will, as the proxy of Jack; nor did the minister discover the mistake till Will wrote his name in the book, Treadway, instead of Salmon. The clerk cried out, "Why, you are not the man asked to church with this woman?" To which the honest tar replied, first devoting his eyes and limbs to confirm the fact, "I came here to prevent my messmate being cheated, and I only marry the girl for Jack Salmon, my messmate, till he comes ashore!" Notwithstanding the altercation that took place, the happy couple retired for a few nights, till Jack came on shore, when he received his spouse from the hand of his proxy; and they are now living as much in peace and tranquility as if they had originally tied the matrimonial knot in *propria persona*.

TRANSPOSITION OF LETTERS.

Potentates—Ten tea-pots.

Amendment—Ten mad men.

Gallantries—All great sin.

Encyclopedias—A nice cold pye.

Breakfast—Fat bakers.

Telegraphs—Great helps.

Astronomers—Moon scolars.

Lawyers—Sly ware.

Penitentiary—Nay I repent it.

Democratical—Comical trade.

Revolution—To love ruin.

Sovereignty—'Tis ye govern.

Punishment—Nine thumps.

Luck.—One man sucks an orange and is choked to death, another swallows a penknife and lives; one runs a thorn into his hand, and no skill can save him, another has the shaft of a gig passed completely through his body, and recovers; one is overturned on the smooth common and breaks his neck, another is tossed out of a gig over Brighton cliff and survives; one walks out of a windy day, and meets his death by a brickbat, another is blown up in the air like Lord Hatton, in Guernsey Castle, and comes down uninjured. An explosion of gunpowder, which killed his mother, his wife, some of his children, and many other persons, and blew up the whole fabric of the castle, lodged him and his bed on a wall, overhanging a tremendous precipice. Perceiving the mighty disorder, he was going to step out of his bed to know what the matter was, which, if he had done, he would have been irreversibly lost; but, in the instant of his moving, a flash of lightning came and showed him the precipice, whereupon he lay still till the people came and took him down.

The *Detached Palladium* says of the Locusts:—The males have longer bodies than the females, and have no wings, and it is those that make the noise we hear from them—at least as far as my observation has extended, this appears to be the case. Their noise organs bear some resemblance to small wind bladders, placed in the incision, near the middle of their bodies, which they inflate and discharge at pleasure, through a kind of a taft or excrescence on either side, right under the wings. And this organ, I find, by dissecting (a dead one that I found,) is connected with the hinder part of the body—which was entirely hollow, having no intestines—this, I suppose, is generally their situation at this stage of their existence, as I have frequently heard it said that they eat nothing during their stay with us.

SEGACITY OF THE ELEPHANT.

A few days before my arrival at Eton," says the author of *African Sketches*, "a troop of elephants came down one dark and rainy night close to the outskirts of the village.—The missionaries heard them bellowing and making an extraordinary noise for a long time at the upper end of the orchard; but knowing well how dangerous it is to encounter these animals in the night, they kept close within their houses till day break. Next morning, on examining the spot where they had heard the elephants, they discovered the cause of all this nocturnal uproar. There was at this spot, a ditch or trench, about five or six feet in width, and twelve in depth, which the industrious missionaries had recently cut through the bank of the river, on purpose to lead out the water to irrigate some part of their garden ground, and to drive a corn mill. Into this trench, which was still unfinished and without water, one of the elephants had evidently fallen, for the marks of his feet were distinctly visible at the bottom, as well as the impress of his huge body on its sides. How he had got in was easy to imagine, but how, being once in, he had ever contrived to get out again, was the marvel. By his own unaided efforts it seemed almost impossible for such an animal to have extricated himself. Could his comrade, then, have assisted him? There appeared little doubt that they had; though by what means, unless by pulling him with their trunks, would not be easy to conjecture. And in corroboration of this supposition, on