

LYNCH LAW IN MARYLAND—A MAN AND WOMAN TARRIED AND FEATHERED.—The slave owners of Kent county, Md., have within a year or two, suffered heavy losses by the running off of slaves, not less than sixty having escaped in 1856, and a large number since. These mysterious escapes created no little excitement. Some five years ago a slave belonging to Dr. Davidson, of Queen Anne's county, ran away, but was apprehended in Delaware and returned to his master. A forged pass or certificate of freedom, it is stated, was found upon him, evidently disguised, which he stated was furnished him by a man named James L. Bowers, of Kent county, and who was well known to entertain strong anti-slavery sentiments. Bowers was subsequently arrested and tried, but for want of sufficient evidence was acquitted. Since then suspicion has been directed against him, from the fact that his immediate neighborhood suffered to a considerable extent from the loss of this kind of property, and on Wednesday night of last week a number of citizens, setting all forms of law at defiance, proceeded to his residence and tarred and feathered him. The particulars are given in the Kent News, as follows:

From ten to thirty persons were engaged in it, one of whom succeeded in decoying Mr. Bowers from his house between the hours of 10 and 12 o'clock, by pretending to have broken his carriage, which required assistance to mend it. Upon Mr. B's arrival at the road, (which is distant about one hundred yards from his house,) he was seized and secured by the party who quickly proceeded to place him in a carriage to be conveyed to a place previously selected for the purpose—His screams were soon heard by his wife, who immediately started to the place from whence they proceeded, and came up with the party before they had carried off her husband. Her fears for his safety were partially relieved on being told that he would receive no personal violence, but that they intended to take him to jail for some offence he had committed. Mrs. Bowers returned home whilst the posse carried him to a woods some half mile distant, where he was stripped, tarred and feathered, and after promising to leave the State within twenty-four hours he was permitted to depart.

They then went to the house of a free negro named Butler and inquired if a certain negro woman named Tillison was there. To this question he promptly responded no. The house was then entered and the individual found, whereupon they administered to him a severe flogging. The woman, who has a strong infusion of the Anglo-Saxon, was taken some distance from the house, and the upper portion of her person subjected to a similar application of tar and feathers. This woman, it is alleged, lives in Cecil, and for several years has frequently visited almost every section of the country without any ostensible business, exerting wherever she goes her wonderful powers of conjuration and fortune-telling. She is represented to be about fifty years of age, dwarfish in appearance, scarcely weighing fifty pounds, and is calculated to excite a great influence upon the more superstitious portions of blacks. She leads a migratory life, and is usually found in the houses of free negroes. Her advent in this county has been followed by the escape of slaves, on more than one occasion.

The common report and statement in justification, are, that nothing but a sense of wrong and of danger to the security of this property, could have induced many of the most substantial and respectable yeomen of our county to adopt the course pursued.—That the frequent loss of slave property for a series of years, and the apprehensions in the minds of owners, call for strong and decided measures, and that the necessities of the case, growing out of the secrecy in which schemes of absconding are concocted and executed, have made it imperative that vigorous and stringent means should be used against those who hold and openly avow ultra-abolition sentiments, and upon whom strong circumstances and developments have forced conviction on the public mind of an improper interference with slaves.