

We might name a number of circumstances when they have committed depredations, such as the one occurring at Lt. Bright's station, when they crossed his bridge into Virginia, he standing on the opposite side and forbid their crossing. At one moment he had from 80 to 100 rifles, guns and pistols pointed at him. They passed forward, broke into his office, destroyed what they wished, and carried away his watch gun and some of his clothing. After having done this, they formed on the bank of the River, fired a volley, gave a hurra and passed on, entering every shanty and farm house on their way, taking by force all the fire arms and money, in their way. At Lt. Breche's Drug Store, they shot into the windows, and as Lt. B. was standing inside of one of the windows with her infant in her arms, a ball passed within nine inches of her head. They also entered the house of Lt. McVilly, in Oldtown, and Lt. McVilly having fled for his life, they laid hold of his servant woman, choked her till she was black in the face, to compel her to tell where Lt. McVilly was; they also abused Lt. McVilly's wife in the most shocking manner, beating her dreadfully. This outrage having been committed too in open day light, none of the citizens daring to interfere. Their force here was about 250 men well armed.

A Lt. W. Harness, who owns an extensive farm, 2 miles below Oldtown, where he resides, informed us that he is obliged to keep watch, day and night, and it is with the greatest difficulty he can get neighbours enough to stay with him as protectors, the Irish having threatened his life and the lives of all who should be found on his farm whenever they shall make their attack. From the fears prevailing in the neighbourhood, Lt. Harness is unable to get hands sufficient to secure his crop, which is very extensive. The female part of Lt. H.'s family are so much frightened, that one of them his aged mother is confined to bed.

What we have here stated is but a small portion of the depredations daily committed by this band of robbers and murderers. That murders are committed, and that frequently, we have no doubt, as the cry of murder is heard almost every night; but no Contractor, Superintendent, or even any of the Labourers, hearing the same, dare put his foot out of the door to render the least assistance; for should any do so, their lives would be in imminent danger. The condition of the line at this time is such that every man, woman and child, who are not members of this lawless band, are in danger of losing their lives, should they be heard to speak one word, or give any evidence against any of them. A Catholic Priest who resided at Celcano, has left there, fearing that his life would be taken.

Under circumstances as they now are, the State cannot get any evidence against them, because any person giving evidence against one of them would be obliged to leave the line, there being no force to protect him; hence no Contractor can appear against them, without abandoning his work; nor dare a Contractor ever discharge one of the men without incurring the displeasure of all his comrades. Hence, if some measures are not taken to protect the Contractor, fears are entertained that the Contractors will be driven from the work, save a few who are Irishmen.

The undersigned consider it