

73

AN ACT OF PIRACY ON THE RAGING SALT

AN UNLAWFUL EXPEDITION IN-
TERRUPTED.

Four Boys of Tender Years Fly the
Jolly Roger.

There has been an act of piracy near Phoenix to which the attention of the admiralty court or the juvenile court is hereby directed. Tom Rains, who keeps a boat on the river near the foot of Seventh avenue, called at the office of the sheriff on Wednesday night and reported that it had been stolen. He said that a Mexican youth in his employ had come upon the thieves, who had tied the boat up some distance down the river, where it then was. Mr. Rains only wanted the thieves punished.

The Mexican youth said that the piratical crew was made up of whites and blacks, and that he knew the rendezvous of the blacks. Deputy Sheriff Adams, heavily armed, accompanied him to a house near the corner of Adams and Third streets, where there were several negro children. The Mexican boy picked out two desperadoes, one about eight years of age and the other about ten. He was not sure that they were the Captain Kidds, but he would know if they put their caps on. In the meantime they had denied any knowledge of the theft of the boat, but when they put on the caps and were positively identified, they burst into tears and said they knew all about it, but that they had been the victims of a press-gang, consisting of a small white boy. They accompanied the officer to his home, but he had not returned. They then went with the officer to the home of the fourth rover of the seas, and identified him through a window as he was eating his supper.

From all of the three boys the officer got the following connected story of the crime on the high seas: The unfound white boy, accompanied by the negro children, went to the river on Tuesday and found the boat anchored to a sand bar some distance from the bank. The white youth divested himself of his clothing and went after it. He brought it to the shore, and the negroes embarked, and the nose of the boat was pointed down the river.

They worked the craft down through shoals and rapids for a distance of two miles. It was then getting late in the afternoon, and the vessel was tied up for the night, and captain and crew returned to the city.

On Wednesday morning, they started out bright and early and met the fourth boy, who was on his way to a butcher shop for a steak for breakfast. His spirit of adventure was aroused by the thrilling tale of the events of the day before, and he joined the crew.

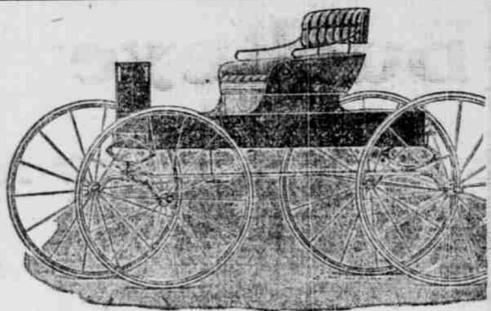
That day was spent in running the boat seven miles further down the river, and they, perhaps, would have made a longer voyage, but about 5 o'clock in the afternoon the boy who had been sent out on the beefsteak errand remembered that he had not yet had his breakfast.

It was then decided to anchor the boat again and return to Phoenix, but on the following morning they were going to re-embark and pursue their voyage to Tucson. That brings events up to the time of the discovery of the theft of the boat and the gathering together of the pirates by the strong hand of the law.

The three boys already in custody were sent to their respective homes with instructions to report at the office of the sheriff early yesterday morning. When Deputy Sheriff Adams came down town he found, instead of three boys, four awaiting his arrival. The fourth was the captain, and the instigator of the outrage, who had been vainly sought for the night before.

He had called at the home of the little negroes to re-enlist them for the voyage to Tucson. They mutinied, seized him, and by force and threats compelled him to accompany them to the office of the sheriff.

There the quartet was severely lectured on the sin of boat stealing and were sent home.



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SUPERVISOR HOGHE WRITES OPEN LETTER

Outlines His Attitude on the Salt River Bridge Construction Question.

To the Taxpayers of Maricopa County, Arizona: It is rumored on the streets and in business circles that "one particular type of bridge is sure to be constructed by the county board of supervisors;" that "only a certain company will secure the contract, no matter who bids;" and that "the South Side Bridge company will dominate the action of the county board in this matter of bridge construction."

It ought to be wholly unnecessary to declare that these statements have not the slightest foundation in fact. The board of supervisors of Maricopa county clearly understand their rights and their duties in this matter, and will surely safeguard the interests of the whole county, both as to type and character of bridge, as well as in letting the contract for constructing same. This contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, all things considered, regardless of what has heretofore been done by any individual or organization. No first-class business house or corporation would think of following any other course.

To accuse the board of supervisors of partiality, prejudice or intent to work the best interests of the county is little less than a crime, and such accusations ought to be frowned upon by all good citizens throughout the valley. L. M. HOGHE.
Phoenix, April 28, 1909.

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NOTICE.

There will be a meeting for the organization of the Territorial Anti-Saloon League, in Phoenix, at the First Methodist church, at 10 o'clock, Tuesday morning, April 27th, where all the friends of the anti-saloon cause, as well as delegates from the outside, will be welcome. A program will be presented and we anticipate having meetings in the afternoon and evening of the same day. C. T. HIRST, Secretary.

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SUGAR BEET FOREMAN LEAVES UNPAID EMPLOYEES

But He Takes With Him a Married Woman.

At one fell stroke, Ed. Flowers, a half breed, who had a contract for overlooking the sugar beet operations of the night before, was notified by his wife and employees and has eloped with Mrs. Rose Amavispa of Glendale, whose husband is suing her for a divorce.

Day before yesterday Flowers came to town and received from Dr. Foss for the payment of the men working on the ranch and to settle some accounts with the merchants in Phoenix and Glendale. The first intimation that there had been no settlement with laborers was yesterday morning when a wagon load of the employees came to town to see about it. They had become suspicious of the night before when Flowers did not return, and their suspicions had ripened by morning into a certainty that they would not see him again without the intervention of the law.

The case was laid before Justice Johnston and the office of the district attorney was consulted. It was the opinion of Assistant District Attorney Lyman that on the showing made by the men, Flowers was beyond the reach of the law. He had simply avoided paying his debts.

It was thought at first that he and the woman, with several children of his by a former wife, had come south and would probably turn up at El Paso, but yesterday morning a wrap belonging to the woman and which had evidently been lost sometime the night before, was found near Glendale, so that they could not have taken a train for the south.

Whether or not they will be pursued depends upon whether someone where in the operations of Flowers something can be found involving a criminal act.

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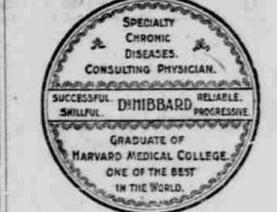
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