

### **THE INQUISITION IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.**

For some weeks past a small Border Ruffian sheet published at Golconda, Pope county, Illinois, has been trying to incite a mob to tar and feather, or otherwise lynch, a minister of the Gospel in said Pope county, named JAMES M. WEST. The Golconda *Herald*, which by the way keeps at the head of its column, "For President of the United States, STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS," originally charged Mr. West with "circulating incendiary documents" throughout Pope county, and intimating that some of the said documents had been sent across the river to Paducah, Ky. The *Herald* called Mr. West an "imp of Bael," and suggested that a martyr's garment was being manufactured for his use. The following was the first editorial warning given to Mr. West in the columns of that paper of March 9th:

"We have been credibly informed that an Abolition preacher named West has been engaged in circulating incendiary prints throughout this and adjoining counties and he has even went so far as to send some over to a gentleman living in Kentucky. If he has no particular desire to wear the martyr's garment—tar and feather—he had better desist. Look out imp of Bael, for you will be dealt with roughly, if you don't attend to your proper calling, more closely."

Transcription of editor's threat to James M. West

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## **The Inquisition in Southern Illinois.**

The *Golconda Herald* of the 13th inst., continues its war on the Rev. James M. West in the following strain :

That he is a circulator of abolition documents he dare not deny; that while he officiates as a colporteur for the "American Reform Tract and Book Society," he cannot be a law-abiding citizen, nor a good Christian; that where such documents as he circulates, are read and believed, there cannot exist any attachment to the union of these States, nor respect for the general laws of the land. Politically, we are his enemy, and shall use all honorable means in our power to subvert his influence, for we know, if his opinions predominate, Democracy cannot. We reiterate our former *threat* as it is termed, that if he cannot conduct himself as a law-abiding citizen and a Christian, he must leave for parts more congenial to his sentiments. *Treason and fanaticism shall not be taught in our community with impunity*, and we again repeat that he had better desist.