TO THE PUBLIC.

When a man makes his appearance before the public, upon occasions of this kind, it is necessary, that his grounds should be good.—Mr. Wm. Smith, a Merchant of this place, and formerly of Lexington, Kentucky, (a man much larger than myself) assailed me on Monday last, in the Missouri Bank, in the most villainous and infamous manner, with a large club.—Circumstances prevented me from calling on Mr. S. until to day; when he, in the most cowardly and dastardly manner, refused to give any satisfaction, for the outrage committed on my person and reputation.

I therefore pronounce the aforesaid William Smith, to be a most infamous SCOUNDREL, RASCAL, & COWARD, and notify the world accordingly.

W. THARP.

St. Louis, (Saturday) Sep’r. 27th 1817.