

fashion, who appears in the character of a steward, sometimes in one situation and sometimes in another, makes up the show, all of which you have at one view. Then commences the performance. The first operation is from the tamborine player, or master, who gives two or three single strokes on his tamborine, that may be heard in any part of the house, without moving his body. He then dances gracefully a few steps, without touching the tamborine; the lady is then swung two to three times by the steward; then the gallant takes a few steps; then the two below tilt a few times, in the most easy, pleasant manner; then the two children dance a little, holding each other by the hand; after this, Smith begins to sing or whistle a tune, to which they are to dance, at which the tamborine strikes, and every one dances to the tune, with motion, ease and exactness not to be described. Many have been the observations of spectators; amongst them, an old German observed, that "when he was starving the seven days, he was making a league with the devil, and that he helped him". All acknowledge with me, that it exceeds every thing they ever saw or imagined. His whole conduct from the first has been, and is, one continued scene of mystery. He has never shown any idea or knowledge of his trial or present situation; he seems happy; his irons and chains are no apparent inconvenience; contented like a dog or a monkey broken to his chain; shows no more idea of any thing past, than if he had no recollection. He, in short, is a mysterious character, possessing the art of invention beyond common capacity. I am almost ashamed to forward you so long a letter on the subject, and so unintelligible; I think, if I could have done justice in describing the exhibition, it would have been worthy a place in the Royal Gazette, and better worth the attention of the public than all the wax-work ever exhibited in this Province.

I am, with all due respect, dear sir,

Your very humble servant."

Apparently the absurdity of the sentence must have impressed even the Attorney General and his associates and eventually a pardon was procured. In the meanwhile the prisoner had become more and more demented and gave evidence of many hallucinations. The credulous old gaoler too, discovered that Smith had the gift of prophecy and learned that while he had the ability to break his chains he had no desire to escape, but was happy when allowed to play with his puppets.

When the pardon arrived Smith did not pay the slightest attention to the news; indeed the only reply he made was "I wish you would bring me some new potatoes when you come again".

His insane behaviour became more and more marked, and it was found necessary in order to get rid of him to adopt a method of deporta-