

following particulars relative to the history of the great American eagle :—

"I descended the Mississippi some three years ago," he said, "in the month of November, in a small, light boat, rowed by a couple of negroes, for the purpose of visiting Memphis. As it was the beginning of winter, the entire surface of the majestic river was covered with battalions of aquatic birds, which had abandoned the northern seas



"A SMALL, LIGHT BOAT, ROWED BY A COUPLE OF NEGROES."

and the great frozen lakes to seek a less rigorous refuge in the temperate climates of our Southern States. Suddenly one of the boatmen pointed out with his finger a gigantic eagle, which, perched on the loftiest branch of an old oak, with keen eye surveyed the rolling tide, and listened intently to every distant sound. A moment afterwards the other boatman directed my attention to the opposite bank, where, perched at an equal height to