

Stupid and Vulgar.

Speaking of Ellis Glenn, the female freak, who was brought to Parkersburg yesterday from Hillsboro, Ill., the News of the latter place says:

"The fact is Ellis is a squeezed lemon, a chewed cud, a cake of pressed pomace. Business has been resumed in Hillsboro and the wheels of enterprise have again begun to turn, for the people are beginning to realize that they have for two weeks been suffering from nervous prostration over a vulgar and unromantic criminal and professional forger who saw fit to masquerade in male attire that she might more successfully ply her felonious vocation. That the prisoner now in jail is the Ellis Glenn who came to Litchfield in the spring of 1898, lived in Butler during the winter of 1898-9, courted Ella Duke, forged the McLean note and finally attempted to escape the consequences of her crime in the Mississippi river, no sane person pretends to question. The only circumstance that lifts her above the ordinary criminal is the fact that she had the cunning to conceal her sex so long under conditions where it seems that detection could not be possibly avoided. Her crime was a bungling affair and she blundered and bungled terribly in its attempted execution. She blundered worse in her awkward attempt to escape, and in concocting the story that she is a twin sister of the real culprit, she has shown herself to be absolutely stupid. She is an illiterate, unskillful, awkward, blundering felon and before she escapes the clutches of the law she will doubtless suffer the penalty of her crimes, at least.

We have no patience with the maudlin sympathy exhibited toward her by some because she is a woman. She chose to unsex herself that she might have better opportunities for pursuing a criminal career, and that she might more easily escape the consequences of her crimes. She chose to commit a crime as a man and she deserves no more consideration than an ordinary male malefactor. She is designated and looked upon by some as a remarkably "slick" individual. This is a sad mistake. She is anything but "slick." She has an inordinate cunning, but in the other qualities that go to make up a smart criminal she is below mediocrity. Her twin-sister story, for instance, is about the stupidest piece of absurd bladerdash ever concocted.

The party who deserves the most consideration and sympathy in this affair is Miss Ella Duke, the victim of Ellis Glenn's duplicity. Miss Ella is an innocent, pure and trusting girl, highly respected and a most worthy young woman. Her name has been brought into the affair through no fault of hers and she has been made an object of ridicule by many thoughtless people. While the affair between Ella Duke and Ellis Glenn may seem ludicrous, it has no funny features for Miss Duke. She was guileless and unsuspected, and was deceived and brought into ridicule by a designing female criminal, disguised as a man. Miss Ella has learned something of women's inhumanity to women, and has also gained an unpleasant notoriety."