

JOHN HUTCHINGS outbest robbers

Source: Crawfordsville Star, June 16, 1881 p 3

On Monday evening as John Hutchings was driving home in his wagon about dark he was stopped by three men just east of Smartsburg toll gate. One man seized one of the horses by the bit and a second appraoached the wagon demanding Mr. Hutchings' money. The third stood on the other side of the wagon. Mr. Hutchings is a vigorous old man in spite of his 60 odd years and it only took him a few moments to seize a wagon standard and deal one of the mean a fearful blow across the head which dropped him. He then struck one of the horses a blow that caused him to rear up and upset the man at his head. The team then dashed off at a 2:40 speed with Mr. Hutchings and soon left his assailants far behind. One of the fellows must have suffered a fearful headache. The robbers must have noticed Mr. Hutchings selling his wool on that day and supposed he still had the money on his person. = kbz

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