MURDERED IN BED.

KENTUCKY RID OF ONE OF ITS MOST NOTORIOUS DESPERADOES.

LEXINGTON, KY., Dec. 26.—The notorious Craig Tolliver, leader of a gang of desperadoes in Rowan County, Ky., has figured for the last time in the murderous fights that have disgraced the eastern part of this State. Tolliver was tried for murder at the Circuit Court which convened in Rowan County last July, protected by the militia, and a force of a trial was enacted which gave him his liberty. He was rearrested and taken to Hamilton County, Ohio, on a charge of cattle stealing and arson. He again eluded justice, this time for want of evidence, and returned to Rowan County where he lived rather quietly. On Christmas Day he went to Martinsburg, an Northern city, had a brush with a man named Peter With, and his friend and companion, Asbury Crist, went also, accompanied by a young woman. During the night Asbury was drinking, both he and the young woman came under the influence of strong liquor. Tolliver remained until an early hour the following morning, when he went home with the young woman. Crist came back shortly after, and, no doubt, recognized Tolliver, who was in a state of intoxication. Tolliver left for home, followed them to their house. He managed in some way to escape at an entrance, stole to the bedside, and, placing himself on the bed, dropped his clothing. He trigered, and then escaped through the window before he could be stopped, leaving the girl uninjured. Assistance coming, Tolliver was round up a short time later. He was found in a, large, gap-wound in his left breast an inch into the heart, from which flowed a torrent of blood. Nothing could be done for him, and he died in a hospital in Kentucky. Squads of men secured the country and took the culprits, and were of the refection for Crist, but so far they have met with no success.

Tolliver’s death ends the life of one of the most notorious men Eastern Kentucky has ever produced. He was the acknowledged leader of one of the worst gangs of desperadoes which infested the State. At an election at Morehead last April, Tolliver was elected Sheriff of that county for the possession of the prisoner. Arriving at Farmers, the scene of the fight, a party of men boarded the train and emptied the contents of their guns into Martin’s body. For the past month the Farmers area was fairly organized, and squads of men secured the county and took the culprits. In the refection for Crist, Tolliver and his friends placed the law at open defiance. As Marshall he attempted to arrest a man who killed a fellow traveler. The man called on to quell. Humphreys emptied the contents of his gun into Tolliver’s body and escaped. Tolliver recovered, and then began a shoot out with little success. The name of the Coroner was among the first killed in an ambush. Ben Rayburn, a friend of Humphreys, was killed in a fight. Ben Rayburn was wounded, and Taylor Young, the prosecuting attorney and friend of Tolliver, was ambushed twice, but escaped. In the depredations that followed the fight several were killed, including a man named Martin, and many more men were wounded. The inhabitants have kept the citizens of Morehead in terror, business at times being suspended and dozens of good citizens leaving. The murder of Tolliver may cause a rupture among the adherents of this gang, and another disgraceful feud may be the result.