

IRRESPONSIBILITIES.

Later developments regarding the election of Craig Tolliver as Judge in Rowan County, Ky., make apparent the bareness and incompleteness of the first published story of his exploit. The account simply said that he ran for Judge, that people were afraid to vote against him, and that, when elected, he proceeded, in his official capacity, to quash all proceedings against himself, and to send out Deputy Sheriffs to bring in his enemies, that he might deal with them. Little attention was paid to the details of his election, which was quite an arduous affair. It appears that there were several candidates for the Judgeship, thirty-seven in all, and that, before announcing his candidacy, Col. Tolliver concluded that it was best to get his rivals out of the way. He attended, in disguise, a barbecue where all the candidates were to address the people, and watching his opportunity, scattered a pound and a half of strychnine over the roasted ox served up on the occasion, of which ox he subsequently failed to partake personally. All the candidates, save one, ate of the roast beef, and all save one, a little later, complained of a pain in the stomach, and after more or less bodily contortions died on the grounds. Some 150 other persons who ate of the ox also died, but, as they were not candidates for the Judgeship, their demise had no bearing on the issue. The one candidate who temporarily escaped by having no appetite on the day of the barbecue was waylaid by Col. Tolliver on his way home and bowled over at the first shot, the third button of his vest being driven clean through his body and into an adjacent tree by the bullet, so beautifully accurate was Col. Tolliver's aim. With no rival in the field on election day Col. Tolliver's triumph seemed assured, but, as he had carelessly neglected to announce his candidacy to the public, he thought it best to attend at the polling-place in person, and heeled. The popularity of the genial Colonel in Rowan County was never more strikingly manifested than by the result of the ballot. The vote was not so heavy as on some former occasions, it is true, the Colonel having occasion during the day to slay quite a number of pig-headed individuals, but it was unanimous. There was not even one ballot cast for any other person than Col. Tolliver, and, it may be added, that since he mounted the bench, which he did as soon as elected, there has not been a single case of contempt of court, nor has an appeal been taken in any instance from his decisions. Certain insinuations reflecting on the character of his decrees have appeared in a venal press, but it is needless to say that these comments have been altogether in newspapers far from Rowan County, and hence not in a position to be well informed. It is but justice to Judge Tolliver that the real facts should be as widely disseminated as possible. Anything reflecting on the character of a possible future Governor of Kentucky becomes matter of importance.