

How the Dare Devil Demons of the Mountains Deal with the Courts.

The Judge and Rescue the Guilty.

[The Frankfort Gazette.]

For three weeks past the people and the press have been talking and writing about the Eastern Kentucky kuklux.

Very little is known of the real character of this mighty clan. It has within its influence some of the men of real worth and wealth in several counties. The clan has grown out of a vigilance organization made necessary in the mountains by the acts of the Underwoods and other criminal gangs, who terrorized the people and defied the law. When these real regulators, who, nevertheless, were and are real criminals for their conduct) abandoned, or quit, the more devilish, and really citizens who had been mixed up in the mobs, organized with new recruits, and now call themselves "Regulators." They infest the counties of Boyd, Lawrence, Carter, Elliott, Rowan, and Greenup, and have perpetrated violent deeds quite frequently within a few months past. Judge Stuart, in whose district most of this kukluxing has been done, seems to have exerted himself to stop it, but without success. Three weeks ago he found it necessary to write the following letter to the Governor:

Louisa, Ky., May 3, 1890.

Hon. L. P. Blackburn, Governor of Ky.:

DEAR SIR: There exists in the counties of Lawrence, Carter, Elliott, Rowan, and perhaps other counties of Eastern Kentucky, organized bands of men known as "Regulators." They have committed many deeds of violence in Estill and Carter counties, hung and killed many men, besides personal injuries to many others.

Elliott county is not in my district; Carter is. On the 19th of April, ult. I began the regular spring term of Lawrence criminal Court. On the third day of the term, a witness refused to testify before the grand jury, what he knew of these depredations, being brought into court he peremptorily refused to testify. He was committed for contempt. On the fourth day of the term the grand jury returned indictments against four of them, under the "Ku-klux law." One of them was arrested, and in default of bail was committed to jail. On the night of the fifth day of the term (Friday night) an armed band of sixty to seventy, as near as I can find out, came into town; woke up the jailor, and with pistols presented, marched him to jail, and took the two men aforesaid out of jail and left. They offered no violence to any one else that I know of. They fired off their pistols and yelled like Indians as they went out, in the suburbs of the town. They left with the jailor, (with directions to deliver to me) the following letter which I copy verbatim:

"to whom this may concern, criminal justice court of Lawrence county. Inflammation has reached us that criminal judge has put some innocent man in jail we wish to tell the court and the fellow citizens of Lawrence county that one Tom Short and G. Roberts is a Regular Regulator we only met him and swore him and it is policy for him not to tell it.

We mean to take them out from the simple fact that he was prisoned and not guilty, therefore one word to the judge. The instructions you gave the jury was not law and keep quiet or might get a little of that you knead a heap of. We heard you called us horse thieves and rogues. This we are not for we are the best men of Carter Rowan and Elliott. We mean to protect all good citizens and we did Resolve to quit business. But we don't feel willing to let the innocent Perish for the sake of us. We was badly represented by all whom are enemies to us. Look Sharp and keep wide awake for there are some to stand condemned. We mean just what we say.

JUDGE LYNCH Commanding.

The above is as near a literal copy as I can make; would send original, but want it for the grand jury at court. The jailor stated before the grand jury next day that he did not know any of the band.

Before court closed I made an order for a special term of Criminal Court, beginning Monday, May 24th, three weeks from to day, to continue twenty four days, and have everything in order of preparation for court at that time.

The opinion prevails here generally that they will not let me hold it; and and that if any of them is committed to jail for contempt or on charges, that they will be released, or rescued while on trial. How far this opinion is entitled to credence I cannot say, and I am in doubt what they will do. Yet I do not believe they will do me a personal injury. Yet many of my friends think that the baser part of them—the "riff raff"—will. The regular term of this court was only six days, and the Carter court beginning at its close, I did not have time to extend the term and investigate the matter, hence the special term. One of the parties indicted at the term is now under arrest, and in Boyd county jail for safely until that time.

Last week I was at Carter. That county is completely overawed and intimidated. I gave the grand jury special instructions touching it, and they made no investigation. Yet they had killed two men but a short time ago within ten miles of the county seat. The grand jury was afraid to try, or bring into court room recalcitrant witnesses.

I don't think that I can rely on the sheriff and posse, in the event of resistance, should the aforesaid mob attempt to rescue persons or prevent the holding of court. In fact the people have no arms, nor can they get them to enable them to resist any formidable force.

In view of all the facts, if I need them, could I call upon you for a company of, say fifty armed and equipped to enable me to hold court, or repel armed resistance to the civil authorities? I don't know that I will need them, and will not call for them unless it becomes absolutely necessary. But I want to be in condition that I can

telegraph you and have response immediately. The outlook from what I can learn is, they will quietly disperse and submit, but in the event they do not, I must be in condition to hold the court at all hazards. Answer immediately and I will come to Frankfort if personal intercourse is necessary. I will write you again as soon as I hear from you. It is reported in the country that a company is coming, and it is having a salutary effect.

I am yours with high regard,

JAMES E. STUART,

Judge Criminal Court 16th District.

When this letter was received, and considered, an order was sent through the Adjutant General to Capt. M. C. Hutchins, commanding the Mason county Guards, at Maysville, to have his company ready to move on short notice. The object of the Governor was not to rush troops into the country of the kuklux, but to do exactly what Judge Stuart's letter asked; i. e. have all things ready.

Duty of Census Enumerators.
For the information of the people we subjoin two sections from the book of instructions to enumerators.

COURTESY ON THE PART OF ENUMERATORS.

It is the duty of an Enumerator, in the exercise of his authority to visit houses and interrogate members of families resident therein as provided by law to use great courtesy and consideration. A rude, peremptory, or overbearing demeanor would not only be a wrong to the families visited, but would work an injury to the Census, by rendering the members of those families less disposed to give information with fullness and exactness. It would doubtless be found in the long run to be an injury to the Enumerator himself and to retard his work.

THE OBLIGATION TO GIVE INFORMATION.

It is not within the choice of any inhabitant of the United States whether he shall or shall not communicate the information required by the Census law. By the fourteenth section of the act approved March 3, 1879, it is provided:

That each and every person more than twenty years of age, belonging to any family residing in any enumeration district, and in case of the absence of the heads and other members of any such family, then an agent of such family, shall be, and each of them hereby is, required, if thereto requested by the Superintendent, Supervisor, or Enumerator, to render a true account, to the best of his or her knowledge, of every person belonging to such family in the various particulars required by law, and whoever shall willfully fail or refuse shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars.

Enumerators will, however, do well not unnecessarily to obtrude the compulsory feature of the enumeration. It will be found in the vast majority of cases that the person called upon to give information will do so without objection or delay. No people in the world are so favorably disposed towards the work of the Census as the people of the United States. With the high degree of popular intelligence here existing, the importance of statistical information is very generally appreciated; and if the Enumerator enters upon his work in a right spirit, he will generally meet with a favorable and even a cordial response.

It is only where information required by law is refused that the penalties for noncompliance need be adverted to. The Enumerator will then quietly, but firmly, point out the consequences of persistency in refusal. It will be instructive to note that at the Census of 1870 the agents of the Census in only two or three instances throughout the whole United States found it necessary to resort to the courts for the enforcement of the obligation to give information as required by the Census act.

It is further to be noted that the Enumerator is not required to accept answers which he knows, or has reason to believe, are false. He has a right to true statement on every matter respecting which he is bound to inquire; and he is not concluded by a false statement. Should any person persist in making statements which are obviously erroneous, the Enumerator should enter upon the schedule the facts as nearly as he can ascertain them by his own observation or by inquiry of credible persons.

The foregoing remark is of special importance with reference to the statements of the heads of families respecting afflicted members of their households. The law requires a return in the case of each blind, deaf and dumb, insane or idiotic, or crippled person. It not infrequently happens that fathers and mothers, especially the latter, are disposed to conceal, or even to deny, the existence of such infirmities on the part of children. In such cases, if the fact is personally known to the Enumerator, or shall be ascertained by inquiry from neighbors, it should be entered on the schedules equally as if obtained from the head of the family.

A second class of cases under this head covers the reporting of the values produced in agricultural or other occupations. The Enumerator is not bound by any statement which he knows or has reason to believe to be false. His duty is to report the actual facts as nearly as he can ascertain them.

The Enumerator is prohibited by law from delegating to any other person his authority to enter dwellings and to interrogate their inhabitants. The work of enumeration must be done by the Enumerator in person, and can not be performed by proxy.

Democrats Don't Boom.

[Owensboro Messenger.]

The absence of a boom for anybody in the Democratic ranks is a hopeful omen. Democrats are in a situation to put forward their best man and win.

Col. Blanton Duncan has sued the Courier Journal for \$25,000 damages to his character. The C. J. has given too much importance to Blant-