

Postponements and Continuances of Criminal Cases--Strong Resolutions Adopted at a Mass-meeting.

MAJ. KINNEY'S STRONG APPEAL.

[Special to the Courier-Journal.]

MOREHEAD, KY., Aug. 12.—To-day is the twelfth of the term, and nothing has been done except to make propositions for continuances and postponements of the criminal cases on the docket. The cause of this delay can not be particularly located. Perhaps it is Rowan county justice running in its accustomed channels, but, certainly, it would seem that the machinery of law is sadly in need of lubrication. The grand jury has been very busy, and up to this date has returned exactly thirty indictments. Nine of these are for murder. The others are for shooting, shooting at and wounding, carrying concealed weapons, and one or two for Sabbath breaking.

Cook Humphrey, the ex-Sheriff, and Ed. Pearce were to-day indicted for a conspiracy to murder.

The grand jury is now investigating the case of John Martin, who, it will be remembered, was taken from the Winchester jail on a forged order, and shot by a crowd of unknown men on the train at Farmers. Jailer Eaton is here with the order and to testify before the grand jury. The order is in due form.

Early this afternoon the Rowan county Law and Order party, which met on July 18 and nominated the recently-elected sheriff, Hiram Pigman, came together at the courthouse for the purpose of effecting a permanent organization. At the convention, which was a large one, all spoke and acted as if moved by one common impulse—that of restoring order and vindicating the fair name of the county.

Maj. Kinney, who, with Mr. Scott, of Frankfort, is here in behalf of the Commonwealth, was called upon to address the meeting, and, after a brief review of the causes, history, and deplorable effects of the lawlessness here, concluded with a telling appeal to the love and pride of home and country and State, which every good citizen ought to feel:

It is plain that the spirit of resistance to lawlessness which has of late been growing is strengthened and confirmed by to-day's proceedings.

A committee of two [good men] was appointed in each precinct of the county for the purpose of carrying out the designs of the meeting, and the following resolutions explanatory of these designs were adopted:

"WHEREAS, Certain lawless men have by their acts of violence given a bad name to our community and tarnished the fair name of all our citizens, even as one drop of one ink will discolor a great quantity of pure water, we, the citizens of Rowan county, who claim to be law-abiding, and who believe that nineteen out of twenty of our fellow-citizens are with us in our desire to obey the law and in enforcing its penalty against its violations, have, in mass-meeting,

"Resolved, That acts of a few men have caused all the troubles which have led to the denunciation of the citizens of our county, and the county itself, as lawless,

"Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to stand by the officers of the law and give all the aid in our power to the protection of property and life and to the procurement of punishment to those who have been guilty of violation of law.

"Resolved, That the Honorable Court now in session is informed that we stand ready to furnish any information which we may possess which will aid in bringing guilty persons to justice, and that the Honorable Judge of this court, and the Honorable Commonwealth's Attorney, are requested to use every machine provided by law to ferret out the guilty ones—who have given such disreputable reputation to our whole community—and if jurors, either grand or petit, are found to flinch from an honest, faithful, or earnest discharge of any duty, that such jurors may be immediately discharged and their places be supplied by unsuspected and true men.

"Resolved, That we earnestly renew the pledge here before given to stand by the officers of the law in every honest effort to enforce the law's mandates; that no party feeling or personal regard shall prevent us from laboring to secure a reign of law and order in our community instead of the state of anarchy and lawlessness which has been produced by the acts of a few men.

Resolved, That we now give notice to those men, who, by a lawless and banded strength, have overawed and kept in subjection the quiet law-abiding majority, that we have now united, with a firm purpose to maintain the law even as they united to violate it, and to the maintenance of the authority of the law, we pledge our honor and our lives.

"Resolved, That each one of us here who is in possession of any information which will aid in bringing to punishment those who stand indicted, if guilty, or who have been guilty of crime and who are not yet indicted, stand ready and will give information to the Commonwealth's Attorney or the grand jury touching any crime, no matter whom it may affect, and we earnestly appeal to grand and petit jurors to give prompt and earnest aid in securing the objects herein declared and set forth.

"GREENBURY JOHNSON,

"WM. T. THURBER,

"D. ELLIS CONNER,

"Committee on Resolutions."