

THE ROWAN TROUBLES.

Judge A. E. Cole Declines to Call an Extra Term of Court—His Reasons Therefor.

Judge A. E. Cole, of the Circuit Court District in which Rowan county is situated, has written the following open letter:

"D. B. LOGAN AND OTHERS, MOREHEAD, ROWAN COUNTY, KY.—Gentlemen: I see, from the COURIER-JOURNAL and other newspapers of July 30, that you ask the Circuit Judge of this district for a special term of the Rowan Circuit Court, to be called immediately, and in your resolutions 'pledge your support in the selection of a grand jury that has the courage to find indictments against every infractor of the law.' You also 'pledge your lives in defense of every witness called to testify in the court, and guarantee to every accused person brought to Rowan county, a fair trial and protection from violence.'

"In response to the foregoing resolutions, I will say that I do now and always have sympathized with the good people of Rowan county, both in their lawful efforts to obtain a reign of law and order in their county, and also in their aspirations for a strict and proper enforcement of the same; for by the law all must abide if they hope to maintain liberty and to secure happiness to themselves and to their posterity. Moreover, I am ready at all times to give my influence and support to maintain the law and to assist in bringing its infractors to a speedy realization of its power and efficacy.

"Indeed, I confidently believe that my course while Commonwealth Attorney for this district for six years, and as Judge for more than six years, is a sufficient guarantee to all who know me, and who are governed by a reasonable degree of fairness, that I herein express my true sentiments.

"As you know, the regular term of the Rowan Circuit Court begins August 2, and under no circumstances could a special term be convened before the 15th of July. I believe, therefore, that the best interests of the good people of Rowan county will be subserved by not calling a special term of said court at this time, and that a fair and impartial trial of all infractors of the law will be better secured at the regular August term. In the meantime, the proper officers should arrest all the violators of the law, and place them either in jail or under bond, so as to secure their presence to answer any indictment preferred against them by the grand jury. Thus whatever may be done by the court and the people will receive the approbation of all law-abiding citizens; thus the people will gain that confidence and regard throughout our civilized and Christian land from which they have been deprived by outlawry and bloodshed.

"For the foregoing reasons I feel it my duty not to call, at this time, a special term of the Rowan Circuit Court.

"Trusting that after mature deliberation you will concur with these views, I am respectfully,
etc.,
A. E. COLE,

"Judge Fourteenth District of Kentucky."