

The Lincoln County Tribune.

SUPPLEMENT.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18, 1889.

EDS. TRIBUNE:— I received an underground telegram of a meeting of bank officials and treasurers and ex-treasurers held in the parlors of one of the banks called for the purpose of considering the chances of electing a county treasurer friendly to the banks. An ex-treasurer in the chair. A bank president slowly and solemnly arose and addressed the meeting as follows: "Mr. Chairman: That we are under great and lasting obligations to the present county treasurer no one, who knows how faithful he has been to us, will deny. But that fatal statement published bears incontrovertible evidence that there were large sums of money in the treasury (or rather in our hands), which ought to have been used in redeeming warrants. The county is dotted all over with grangers who have been compelled to borrow money from us who had warrants unpaid. Belton's criticism of it has got them all to thinking and talking the subject over and they are all shouting for Belton for treasurer. The thoughts of his election makes the cold chills crawl all over my back, for he would pay warrants as soon as money was collected for the same, consequently the poor would not have to come and borrow money of us at three per cent per month as at present. Our stockholders would complain for unpaid dividends, and as for you ex-county treasurers I weep when I think of your fate, for you would have to pull off your fine clothes and kid gloves and go to work like honest men. Driving fast horses would be a dream of the past with you, for when he got hold of the books he would make you disgorge every dollar of county money. Black night heavily hangs over us." Mentally exhausted he sank into his chair.

A solemn silence reigned for a time when Hoosier staggered to his feet and, first giving his knowing wink, spoke as follows: "Be of good cheer. O bank presidents and ex-county treasurers, for by a liberal outlay of money and hard work we can pull through. I am certain of the nomination, but in order that my policy of making the poor borrow their own money the right commissioner should be nominated," when he winked towards O'Fallons or Birdwood. "There are many aspirants in the field.

Promise every one of them, for you make them friends, but stick to the west. The nominations all right, then apply the party lash and victory is ours. The grangers know no more of county business than of the proceedings of the Council of Trent, and as for Belton, I will publish a piece in the papers accusing him of getting \$1,000 for his first year's salary as commissioner. I will publish that the county is in a very flourishing condition, that when grangers come to court they can get their warrants and rush to the banks and get them cashed, all which prosperity is due to me, and I will sign Hoosier."

Such was the paternity of the article.

I would just as soon answer the article as though he had signed his name to it. Hoosier accuses me of getting \$1,000 for my first year's service. The records show \$273; seventeen days of the second year is included in it. All the old residents of the county know what a deplorable condition the county was in when I first took hold of the job of straightening out the county affairs. My colleagues, Wm. Hubartt and Joseph Hershey, were much abler men than myself, but I had had an experience of over four years as clerk of the county, consequently I directed the investigation. Prior to my advent as commissioner the treasurers made out their fees, the commissioners looked on with awe at the size of the fees, but were innocent of the mode of making the fees. We made settlement with Mr. Eells from the beginning of his administration in 1882, which was against him several thousand dollars. The settlement has the honor of three years priority of being the only settlement made with the county treasurer according to law in the state of Nebraska as pronounced by the supreme court. The settlement was the only settlement made with treasurer since J. M. McLucas' time. The present treasurer last January made what he calls a settlement, to-wit: State money collected, \$11,840.53; treasurer's fee, \$510.16; County, \$38,415.92; treasurer's fee, \$962.43; City, \$5,617.75; treasurer's fee, \$392.35. In addition a fee of \$250.50 is kept out as a fee on \$10,000 jail bonds, and he credits himself with \$175.35 on \$7,000 O'Fallon bridge bonds, which sum he is clearly not entitled to, for the fees apply only to the collection of taxes, besides the O'Fallon bridge bonds were turned over to J. L. Means and only passed through the treasury. Now he kept out and credits himself with \$1,388.28 county and \$392.35 city