

# THE FRONTIER.

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THE FRONTIER PRINTING COMPANY  
KING & CRONIN, EDITORS.

An appropriation of \$200,000 has been made for the benefit of drouth sufferers.

It is an expanded fact that those who have objected the more strenuously to the change of venue law are men who stood in most imminent danger of becoming entangled in its provisions.

The county attorney and sheriff of Holt county should join in asking the governor to offer a reward for the arrest and conviction of the murderers of the Hills. Both of these officials are on record as saying that they have no doubts that the men are dead.

Men who thought that Neil Brennan should be defeated for county treasurer because he had a hand in making the three-fifths law, and who used that argument against him in the campaign, had gall of quality fine enough to ask him to go to Lincoln and work against its repeal when the measure was threatened. Consistency is surely a jewel, and gratitude an unknown quantity.

The FRONTIER would like to see the state appropriate a sufficient sum of money to put in a system of irrigation covering her semi-arid counties. It would be no greater hardship upon the whole people than it is to appropriate \$300,000 every year to offset the effects of hot winds and drouth. In fact it would eventually prove a benefit. Counties once irrigated would be self-supporting always and furnish more than their share of surplus to the commercial centers.

The serpent that hibernates in the basement, beneath Shylock's headquarters, in its last issue of hisses published a quite lengthy article commenting upon what this journal has done, and what failed to do. Our space can be filled with matter more to the advantage of our readers than answering or noticing such vilification. Any man can lay down premises, weave syllogisms and arrive at conclusions, but if his premises are false his conclusions are also false. No truth can be deduced from an hypocritical proposition, no matter how wily the reasoner.

The FRONTIER is always willing and anxious to make amends when it unwittingly publishes an error. In our issue of March 7 we stated that the board of supervisors had allowed the deputy county treasurer \$100 more per year than was authorized by law. This was a mistake. The facts in the case are that the board allowed the treasurer's "chief clerk" \$100 more per year than is authorized by law. We made no error in the amount misappropriated by the populist board for a populist administration, the error was simply in naming the beneficiary.

OUR more or less esteemed friend, Hugh O'Neill, occupies a liberal portion of our local space this week with an article denying certain things said by us in the issue of March 7. In fact it seems to us that Mr. O'Neill consumes more space than is necessary under the circumstances. We simply gave him credit with the authorship of several communications published in the Beacon Light, and in doing so we fail to see wherein any great wrong was done the gentleman. If he is not guilty, to so plead would be sufficient. We did not say that he had any of Scott's money, but if he wishes to take advantage of the opportunity to deny it—as he does in his article—we are perfectly willing. Some men have an abnormal tendency to look for shoes that are sure to pinch their toes.

WHEN the board of supervisors were skirmishing and laying plans to storm the stronghold of the county treasurer's office, when Scott was the incumbent, the editor of the Sun went to the treasurer and turning up both itching palms proffered his services and the use of his columns in defense, the consideration to be the publication of one semi-annual statement. We quote from a communication written by Barrett Scott and published in these columns last fall:

You offered to support me in my troubles with the county board after they had been fighting me for more than six months if I would give you the publishing of one of my semi-annual statements. I refused to buy you then and I have never been sorry for it. You had the contract at one time from the county to furnish stationery for my office, you no doubt remember. You undertook to deliver two-thirds to three-fourths the number of sheets of paper or envelopes you filed your claim for.

You also remember one time I bought 500 stamped envelopes for you to print return cards on. You returned them twenty-five stamped envelopes short.

This is Mr. Scott's own language and we have no reason to discredit it, especially when statements made therein are corroborated by other county officials. That he delivered short-count on stationery furnished, at least three former county officials can attest. The Sun man is considerably further advanced in crookedness than the papers he criticizes and we do not wonder that he refers to them in such a patronizing and disdainful tone. He feels above them—in his line—and loathes them for their honesty.

SOME funny things do happen now and then in this old humdrum world of ours, and a man not a pessimist can often find things at which to smile if he only keeps his weather eye open. During the campaign last year Mike Harrington and Tom Golden made all of the welkins in Holt county school houses ring with the populist tale of woe and swore by their flowing beards that the only way to snatch the county from the depths of the demnition bow wows was to elect every man on the populist ticket, and especially senator and representatives. Their men were chosen. Last week Mike Harrington and Tom Golden tramped the streets of O'Neill with a subscription paper to raise funds to send a lobby to Lincoln to work against the repeal of the three-fifths law, which the populist senator and one representative were advocating. But that was not the most amusing part of the spectacle. The climax was reached when men of O'Neill who had voted for these same fellows went down into their yawning pockets and brought forth hard-earned money to defeat the work of their representatives.

It may be all right, yet it looks to us to be hardly the proper thing for the governor to veto a bill simply because he considers it unconstitutional. The governor is not supposed to be a constitutional lawyer. We have a supreme court to pass upon those questions and a bill passed by both houses of the legislature, impeded by nothing but constitutional objections, should be signed. Its constitutionality would be tested upon its first application, and if then found to be not legal there would be no harm done. If found to be all right, the good there was in it would certainly come out in the enforcement. But once silenced by veto it is eternally lost. The governor assumes an ability that he may not possess when he delegates to himself the decision of these important constitutional points. In the constitutionality of the change of venue bill, now defeated by veto, THE FRONTIER has always entertained serious doubts. We were of the opinion that it would be held unconstitutional by the courts, yet we were in hopes that they might have an opportunity to pass upon the fine questions involved, and settle them once for all.

CLERK BETHEA objects to the item among the "Independent Steals" wherein we say that he hires more help than is necessary and more than was employed under a republican administration. He has called our attention to his books, which show that during the year 1893 a republican clerk paid out for help \$3,325, as against \$2,498.14, paid out by him for the year 1894. He says further that he did more work during the year 1894 than was done by his predecessor in 1893. This assertion of Mr. Bethea's is perhaps true. We do not know to the contrary and therefore have no right to dispute it. But we insist that at the time we said he was employing more help than was employed by Mr. Butler we were correct. We were in his office and counted the number of clerks and are satisfied that the statement was correct. That he subsequently discharged a part of them does make our statement untrue. We have no particular fault to find with Mr. Bethea's administration, further than that he is not living up to ante-election promises made by independent hustlers. They said good clerks could be hired for \$20 or \$30 per month. If this is true why do they not employ them? If not true, then somebody dealt in false pretences, and that is all we have said.

### SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.

The following extracts are all from the Beacon Light, while under the management of its present editor, the man who never encouraged mob law or other anarchy:

O, you miserable, degraded pukes, can you give any just cause why you should not be tried and punished in the court of last resort in the "Niobrara District?"

It is due to the public to say that "we got back," and strange as it may appear there are a few thieves and thugs lying around yet who have not been baptised in the Niobrara.

This miserable old thief ought to thank his lucky stars the people have been kind and considerate enough to allow him to go unhung, and the officers that persist in allowing him to roam around and curse men.

We want to tell this gang that the impress of the honest manhood of North Nebraska that is behind the Beacon Light is higher than any court that could be induced to cater to the whims of a gang of thieves, who may thank the patience of an oppressed and outraged people that they have not met their doom at the ends of ropes.

And now the report goes that a young man has said that when Dave Adams returns to O'Neill that some people will leave town very quick. If that y. m. would stick his ear around a corner some time and hear a group of robbed and defrauded depositors discussing Dave Adams, he would arrive at the conclusion that there was more probability that a thief would go backwards up a telegraph pole.

The people have said by their ballots and actions that they had no more use for these infamous boodlers, and gave them warning to pack up their traps and leave, and they are urgently requested by all honorable residents of Holt county to take their poor, trucking, lying sneaking, character assassinating many editors with them when they emigrate to that salubrious climate where David Adams basks in the sunshine among centipedes and horned toads, safe from the clutches of Nebraska laws and a prospective rope in the hands of men who he, a member of the gang robbed.

### INDEPENDENT STEALS.

From THE FRONTIER, 1894.  
At every meeting of the board of supervisors they steal from the county \$186, by charging for the day before the board meets and the day after it adjourns.

By awarding the printing of the tax list to the Independent they have stolen over \$1,500 from the people of the county.

By employing more help in the treasurer's office than is necessary, and more than was employed under a republican administration, they are wrongfully spending the people's money.

By employing more help in the clerk's office than is necessary and more than was employed under a republican administration, they are robbing the taxpayers.

By allowing the sheriff two deputies when he should do all of the work himself, they are heaping additional burdens upon the public.

By recklessly plunging the county into ill-advised and losing litigation they are increasing taxes.

Employing John Morrow for a year at \$2.50 per day as assistant expert, was clearly in violation of our statute.

By calling a grand jury last fall they heaped thousands of dollars of additional debt upon the county, and the benefits derived were absolutely nothing.

Being the plurality party they are responsible for the continuance of the supervisor system, which costs the county over \$50,000 more every year than that of the commissioner.

Before election Joss Mullen promised that all the help he would ask would be one deputy and one clerk. Therefore, all the help he employs above that number is a steal, according to the words of his own mouth.

A GOOD BEGINNING FOR 1895.  
The former steals of the pops are entitled to these additions:

By refusing to accept \$50,000 and settle with Scott's bondsmen the supervisors certainly beat the county out of that amount.

By violating Scott's bond the pop supervisors defrauded the tax payers out of an amount equal to Scott's shortage, as the bond was worth the amount and could have been collected.

Every cent paid Mike Harrington is a legal political steal. He has done nothing but the duty of the county attorney, and they both have received pay.

Every cent paid the legal committee is a steal, as the work they are doing belongs exclusively to the county attorney and should be performed by him.

Awarding the publishing of the tax list to the Beacon Light this year at its own figures is a steal almost as large as that perpetrated in the same way last year.

Paying the treasurer's chief clerk \$100 more per year than is allowed by law must be a steal. When republicans did the same thing the pops pronounced it a steal and said that if they were elected they would not do anything of the kind.

When the county clerk files a bill for \$700 for making the tax list, that also must be a steal. It is a steal because the populist board of supervisors refused to allow Ed. Butler pay for the same work; and the legal committee even now say they are going to litigate with Chever Hazelet and recover from him the amount allowed by a former board for this same work.

When County Attorney Murphy went to California to take a deposition it was an expense that was entirely unnecessary.

County Attorney Murphy was sent to Mexico on two junketing tours. They were both devoid of results, other than spending the people's money.

Frank Campbell's trip to Mexico cost a neat little sum. He was there to represent the great state of Nebraska, but did not arrest his man, neither did he have him in custody for a moment. He did, however, advance Cunningham a considerable sum of Holt county money. This expense was not necessary, therefore if not a steal, was at least gross extravagance.

When the county board paid an Omaha attorney to defend Henry Murphy in the case brought against him for false imprisonment, they surely perpetrated another steal. They had no more right to pay for Murphy's defense than they had to pay for the defense of Barrett Scott, John Skirving, Chever Hazelet, Hank McEvony or even the three commissioners from whom they now seek to recover \$1,500, claimed to be short on the sale of those old bonds.

The board paid Judge Roberts for acting county attorney while Mr. Murphy was visiting in the east last January. Both Roberts and Murphy are certainly not entitled to pay for the same work.

Office rent and fuel allowed the county attorney is a little out of the usual order. When the last county attorney, who, by the way, was a republican, asked for these trimmings he was politely informed that he could occupy a portion of the sheriff's office.

THE editor who was "not a farmer," and therefore did not know what position to take upon the seed and feed bond proposition, was however, an irrigationist, and knew that the county should not be bonded for that purpose. \$150,000 for irrigation would have left no room for so many relief committees.

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