# WHAT DIVISION WILL COST Facts Concerning Transcribing of Custer County's Records.

assessor to assess property at a fair, old or back years, and they would to earn \$10,000 in mileage, cash value, but it has been assessed be at the old court ho so in old Now, kind reader, I have been are proposed, the northesst corner is at from ongesixth to one-bach of fluster, and there are a great many very construction in my estimate, obliged to give so much of its rightful its value, and while it is true that little things that would nome up, and very recemble in my figures, belonging territory to get a few schemthe levy has been as high as the and papers and matters to copy that for in the matter of pages I am cor- ere of Calisway, satisfied statutory limit, yet your caxes can one cannot begin to enumerate. be made nigher by assessing you property higher, also your levy enbe greater than 15 mills by reason be surveys and plats, and a great Office of regists rol deeds, of county bonds, judgments, etc., many notes pertaining to the survey against the county. of lands and lots that will have to

transcribe from the old books, to it oach new county. portion which belongs to each new county. In the register's office there are 150 books, and in the distriet court there would be about 70, to be hunted up, and that part of and each new county would have to buy their foorth, besides many other books, and then a court house for each county, and vaults or fire proof safes in which to keep your records and files.

In the register of deads office you will find 68,384 pages of record three-fourths of which would have to be copied in other books for the new couplies Thesa 68,381 pag-s will average 450 words to the page. hese records pertain to land. which will be 30,773.800 wards. three fourths or 22,079 600 words of which will have to be copied. Now what will it cost to copy, proct read, and enter each instrument it the numerical intex, also in the direct and indirect index? How many words can one person so copy proof read and index in a day, realizing that most every day some one is in looking up some land that they are interested in; some of you farmers are in almost every day. on summons, all answers and papers and probably want the book they filed in the case, all orders of the are copying from, and you have the first right to the book, so the convist will have to wait until you are ment, and return of order of sale through, so how many words could one cony? I believe 2,500 words under such circumstances would b an average days work, which would require 9 232 days for one person to copy the records for the three new counties, and at \$2.50 per day, ver. reasonable for such work, would be \$23,080 for the three new counties to pay for copying from this one office (at 300 working days in the year, it would take one person 30 years and 232 days) (or it would take 61 persons 150% days, or six months, to do the work) or suppose you could hire a copyist at \$2 per day, it would cost the three new counties \$18,464; or suppose they should copy 3,000 words per day, at \$2 50 per day, it would cost you \$19,932 50. The average number of words copied per day for the year 1899, in the register's office was 2,147 per clurk, as shown by the records, besides there are are p great many town plates. d constors plats to be drawn off, that is not included in the above, and all of the old books would stay in the old county; none of these plats or pages could be torn or out out. And this is just a reasonable estimate for one office. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE. Now in case of county division, would not the records pertaining to the organization of s hool districthave to be copied and certified to. from the superintendent's office, that you may know of the organizacost something.

## more One can tracily guess of the amount of work to be done. SUSSICITE.

I see in the division papers a great deal and about sherifs onlica ies be ing \$10,000 per year. Did you ever stop to thick and calculate. The

You are told that taxes cannot is [ third to, the mounty in which he short I's mileage free is 5 cents per any night because the county levy lives, or if just the indices are cur- mile for each mile newsearily and County can cast a vote for County Divis at its limit, let us grant that it is putted to, why in that case you annually traveled; now for the stor, with the proposed lines as they Now just get your tax recent and acould go to your new manny with shorff to earn \$10,000, at 5 are, is more than I am sole to underlet us figure a lette. You have a (in case you want to buy some per- sents a mile, he would have stand. If we are to divide at all, has farm of 160 acres that you can sell sound property from your astunbor, to travel 200,000 miles a year, and not the people of the North-east corner. at \$1200, \$1400, or \$1000; your tex and want to find out of there is a if the sheriff was to drive the whole some rights? Why is it, that this correceipt shows it valued at about chartel more named him) and min days, he would have to travel ner to just one ball as large as \$200, which at 15 daris, would be get the numbers of material and date, 545 miles such day to make it, and the proposed County. Callaway is \$3,00 but if assessed at \$40L at 15 and then go to Broken How to see if he was to drive 70 miles per day, strated in? This County may be too mills, would be \$0.00, or if listed at if thes most guide covers the property of would take him 2857 days, or 7 large, but the voters of this corner \$800 at 15 mills, would be \$12.00, you are after And often times you wears and 202 days, or counting should not go to the other extreme and and so on to a fair cash vane of would want to Lak up something band to out, it would take 8 men, get a small corner were they will hardyour farm, and it is the daty of the corraining to your assistment for driving to miles each a day, I year Iy be able to organize as a County at

runt, fur I have the No. of each book We all realize that one-fourth of Old

RECAPITULATION.

to copy you T of rec-

In the courty judge's office the county clerk's office, survey or's office, trips to Brosen Baw.

ly 300, and they will cost you from their ends as has Collaway.

ages of bound volumes of comeady to he bound, making 30,001 ages of complete record to go over, \$30,000 to do it.

What is the complete record? 1

Kind voter, think on these turngs

J.C. MOORE.

ourt and journal entries, decree of HAVE WE REACHED THE LIMIT OF TAXATION IN CUSsourt, order of side and advertise-TERCOUNTY?

It is claimed by the divisionists

# LAVIE OF LET A VOICE FROM SARGENT

### Sound Argument From A Substantial Farmer.

Sargent, Netr. Oct. 9.h, 1900. ! four if necessary ? Ob, that argument is disgusting to Mr. Editor :--

man that pays his honest debts. It is Just how any iss payer of the Northrepudiation. It is damable. Think of east or the North-west part of Custer an attorney at law, crouching in the form of a man, behind such a subterfugene that! National, State. County bobs up and save the anti-divisionists charge that it would require a great all. Why is it, that when these lines deal of time and expenditure to transfer records. The divisionists say that this

Custer is too small for a County, but now about one-fourth less 65,000 acres of the best land in Custer county.

not entered according to precincts, town but we hope they will have an opportun anips, or any other regular way, so many new books to buy, in which to that portion which effects land in copy you i of records. \$14,985-35 by to see them, and after looking them books would necessarily be provided. and then a vast amount of work not over, any one that votes for division and these great stacks of records, indexenumerated, with the work from the then, surely they are suffering from

> superintendents office, county judge's We hear the argument that Broken office, county treasurer's office, es | Bow contains the only kickers against the files, records and papers inana- tablishing new county seats, build invision. Of course, Broken Bow will erred and transcribed, for each new ing court houses, jails, vaults or oppose division, but every one knows fire groof safes and the buying of toat they have not created a corruption books, of which there will be near- fund for the purpose of carrying out

about \$10 each and a great many quarter is a man who does not own a dete records, and about 2,000 pages things we can't think of. I tell you foo of land, nor dues not pay over \$3.00. it will cost between \$75,000 and taxes a year, one who never has any

business at the county seat, one was County, as follows: Milburn 325 ft, long. It con wish to get an idea of the would not have business it & County Seat Gates 200 feet long, Walworth 180 feet soffeets land, and a large part of magnitude of the work, and books was located on every sand bill in the to be none through, just call on the North east corner. Thick of Custer county officers, who are genial, ac- county being divided. Taink of the s a record of all the proceedings in commentating gentleman, and they northeast corner getting one-sixth of the district court, together with a can vive you some idea. It is like this County, when it should have onempy of the petitions, etc. As I building a house, you think you have fourth. Think of the northwest corner said before a large part of these counted everything, and your house being out off with only one sixth of the records is concerning land, and in will cost you \$600, but when you whole of Custer county, and all the waste order that you may anderstand, I got through it has cost you near and there is in that ionality, with Merca only ten miles away from Broken How as a county seat These people

never claimed they wanted division be-It would consist of the following: Respectfully submitted for your cause of distance from the County Seat, Polition, summons, sherif's return perusal and careful consideration. but that it is the enormous fees of the sucriff.

They truly believe that with four sheriff's they would feel a sense of reestate boom that hadly just for you. lief, with four clerks and four judges, Our county is just passing through its and superintendents and treasurers. Ob

## MORE ABOUT THE OPEN DOOR.

Several county papers have conain'd up article headed, "The Door to County Division. Open. G. E. Carr bas given us the Key."

This arnots is signed "A Callaway, Divisionist," (Dick Bregn, in disguise) and he implores every one to read it.

In this arthur he alleges that Mr. Cart. member of the board of supervisors, recently stated that there are \$250,000.00 of unpaid real estate taxes in Custer county. This is the "\*key" which he claims Mr. Carr has given the "divisionist." We do not know whether Carr nade the statement or not. nor are we informed as to whether the etatement, if made, is correct, but let us assume that there is \$250,000,00 of unpaid real estate taxes in this county. What does this fact demonstrate? Not a failure of the county treasurers to perform their duty, because "A County Divisionist" in the article says that we never had better officers in the county than our present county treasurer and Mr. Lomax his predecessor

Lomex hold the office for four years and our present treasurer almost one year, five years would certainly be sufficient time in which these treasurers with the assistance of tax collectors in each township would collect the taxes if they could be collected.

Now, it is well understood by every one that upon failure to pay real estate texes. It becomes the duty of the county treasurer to offer the land for sale in order to obtain the taxes due against it.

This, the Treasurer, can do from year to year, and this has been done each year in Custer county, and this land has been off rud for cale by county treasurers over and over again.

If, when offered at public sale, there are no budders, then he may sell at private sule, so that the land sgainst which remains unpaid this \$250,000 of texes though open for sale at all times has not ound a purcuaser. Why? For the simple reason that in Custer county there is a vist amount of unoccupied land, land which is not suitable for any other than grazing purposes. It is not occupted because it will not sustain a family. No one wants it, and that is 1899. In Custer county was \$5952.73 and why the taxes remain unpaid against it.

While our county is in area large, county, would fail to this proposed in its ability to support families or a County. Then place us in one-sixin of population, it is not greater than many Custer county with all of these bridges other counties of one-third he size. If and expenses, then double the valuation each quarter of land in Custer county. vote more bonds, then when you want was capable of sustaining a family and was occupied by a family, then the ourden of paying the expenses of four counties instead of one, would not be much greater than the present burden of supporting Custer County.

The great argument of division is the

and No. of pages in each book.

First, they would be a great as transmitted to the new counties. Office of district court

In the district vierk's I find 37 561 \$10 to \$15 each, or average you One of the greatest entitusiasts of our

and drvide to each county wherein

will give you an example: Say a \$800 morignee is forestosed on a trad of

land, and a complete record mode before you vote on division.

#### and individual outloss should be trans. soled in the same way. Think of an strorney advising and enforcing a climit to contract debts to go beyond blameans and give as reason for his advice, that the client was not financially responsible. Honesty and prudence say, stay within your means." Again, this great apostle of division

is some of Broken Bow's false alarm. Mr. Brega says that all the transfer of records that will be necessary, would be

to place them in a dray and cart them over to Callaway, Mr. Brogs knew that this was a falsehood. He knows that deeds and mortgages are The people have been kept ignorant recorded in books, and that they are

COUNTY CLEBN.

mary other papers and files.

a large affair, and it seems to me which contains many tracts of land a two cent stamp. Then ask your lavy but by increasing valuation. We either they would have to be copied sold for taxes, which are not re- division neighbor if the small coun- now have only one fourth valuation. or the indexes copied, to each new deemed. To divide out these taxes ties adjoining Custer are being run Mr. Brega, is there any law that esys, county, each party located and cer- to their proper counties, you will on a fifteen mill levy.

and order of confirmation of m they need to be copied? Because for county purposes. a looking up title to land, where sheriff's deed has been issued, you fifteen mills can be levied for county want to know whether or not all purposes opless authorized by a vote be heard to say, "Go op the river fo the proceedings are correct, and the of the people, as in the case of utles and build a duch and your farms place to find them is from the com- county bonds. plete records and files. Now there are 39,961 pages, and the legal fee revenue law provides that personal for the ditch and your land will be a not per page, which would be property "shall be valued at its fair double in value." \$10,980.50, three-fourths of which eash value. we say 30. a page for copying, we use at its feir value, estimated at the in value. We have a part of a ditch, would be \$11,985.35, but suppose would have \$11,988.30, and three- price it would bring at a voluntary we have the \$10,000 bonds, the railroad, our hs of that would be \$8 991 20 sale thereof, when public notice had and we have good quarters for sale now Besides there are a large number of

SURVEYOR.

In the surveyor's office there will

31111010

unfinished probate matters will hav-

DISTRICT COURT,

county their portion.

capers and orders outside of that to copy and certify to. Then there are 19 appearance

indements (which are alive) will be a lien on land if the party against whom the judgment is rendered whether or not there are any judge ment lins, unless you come to records are, and if you have to, a hat at from one-sixth to one-tenth of its 's that the levy for Logan Co, is 235, do you gain?

#### COUNTY TREASURER.

This office concerns the taxes, of he, our levy for county purposes same, when the built is 15 mills? tion of your own district, and hold which all will be more or less ac- would not exceed three or four mills Custer Co. has a 15 mill levy with only intact the boundaries of your dis- quainted, but in it we find a great on the dollar; and would raise as our four a valuation, while the above tricts, for I don't think you would feal of work to be done. There is much money as the present levy of countes have more than one hait valuaorganize a new, and probably a a large smount of uppaid taxes, fifteen mills does upon the one-sixth tion. great many papers and files effect, which will have to be copied. Of 10 one tenth valuation ang your district, would be needed, the farm hand they are only due No. Mr. Brega, that statement a lawyer of Mr. Brega's caliber to deand there are 256 school distrings duce 1895, except a few which ran won't do. All Custer county has to cide. He says, I dety any of the Broken Brega, and we would get them run for in the county, and all that would back to 1893. Of the town lots, the do, if they want to miss more money. Bow tackeys to answer his assertion."

will find a large amount of work to upon which there are now due 14 justion. done, in the way of going over the years' taxes, including the year records, and find everything per- 1900, and there are other towns taining to the laying out and estab- with taxes for many years, and all lishing of roads and building of unpaid personal taxes for many bridges, such as orders of the county years will also have to be transboard, petitions and contracts, and forred. In the copying of these all transcribed in a proper book for taxes, the name of person assessed each new county, each road and will have to be written, the descripbridge located in its proper county, tion of land, walue and each hind of also all levies affecting unpaid tax, that is at it, county, school, etc., taxes, and there are a great and also total. This will have to many official bonds of record of he carefully compared, and each correctness of the above figures, don't taxes, your small county will pay an would be impossible to remove the officers and school treasurers, that personal and land tax put in the take the word of any one for it; just unjust proportion of the states tax, and would have to be transferred, and county to which in belongs, and this write to the county clerks of the undoe national tax, and it would meet

verything percenting to the fore. that taxes cannot be any higher than Yes, we would be relieved. closure proceedings, that would be at present for the reason that fifteen a complete record. Why would mills is the limit that can be levied

It is conceded that no more than

SEC. 4. article 1, chapter 77 of our once can be heard to say, "Vote bonds

SEC. 5, Real estate "shall be val. get a railroad, our land would be double been given, and a payment of one-|at \$1,2.0 that were worth \$1,800 in 1890; third cash and the balance secured but now, if you will only enclose your. by a mortgage on the property."

Now, I ask augone who is in doubt County, your farms will surely be doub as to whether or not taxes may be led in value. On, yes, these are the part of them, and divide the cases increased, to look at his tax receipts same fluanciers, but the anti-divisionists o their proper sounty. There will and say whether his property has say it will cost more to run four se 3 judgment records that will not "men assessed at its "fair value", as counties, to build four Court Houses, to have to be transferred, but the defined by the law. If so the limit transfer records to keep four sets of is reached; if not, the limit has not County officers, than to keep one. Here Mr. Brega of Callaway, takes been reached.

Everyone knows, who knows any. the floor. He quotes the statutes and thing about it, that the assessors of says. 'How can they tax us any more? out, in case you buy a piece of land, this county, at their meeting resol- Then he looks wise. ved to massess property at one-fourth 'How can they tax us any more, when its value, and as a matter of truth it we are taxed to the limit, he repeate."

> vaine. If the property in this county was and poor little Loop 24%, and all the

> assessed as the law provides it shall rest of these small counties about the

taxes run back for many years; for is to increase the assessed valuation Perhaps it would be difficult for any instance in the fown of Callsway of the property, and this can be done Broken Bow lackey to answer, but a In the county clerk's office you here are a large number of lots by your assessme and hoards of equal. Sargent clob nopper would say, "Look C. L. GUTTERSON.

# ABOUT COUNTY LEVIES.

Coster Boffalo				
Dawson	1.00		111	22
Valley			-	. 224
Sherman				
Logan				.281
Blaine	1.474	1.4.4	in e	.24
Loup -		ä.,		1245

would be a long, teilious job; and counties named, and get the infor- the obrgations of the new county by Broken Bow, rather than build a new The chattel mortgage business is there would be the tax sale record, mation direct. It will only cost you doubling the taxes not by increasing the court house at some other point. T

you cannot double that multiply it by

one-fourth valuation.

ofaney; like all counties and individual it has its tria's. Some of our fluent divisionists of

in the country and bring him in.

ed and copied with a pan. Inree new

I will make what I consider a fair es-

fimate of the expense of the transference

of records. To provide books and place

them in each county in just as good

shape as they are now, within U e vanits

of Custer county at \$150,000 and it will

not be far from being true. \$10,000,00

in each county for a court house, would

The supervisors record shows that we

have eight (8) bridges in this proposed

long, West Union 431 feet long, Sargent

521 feet long Comstock 380 feet long,

Wescott 300 feet long, and Longwood

The amount expended for bridges in

in 1900 to date, \$4523.00 and fully one-

nalf of the expenses of bridges in Custer

to see the county judge, drive live mile-

No. Mr. Brega, we do not want rea

480 feet long.

mean \$10,000 bonds the first year,

counties would be supplied.

We now have a good court house and Sargent, say the value of your farm I might add toat it was presented to would be coubled if we would divide Coster county by that don of thieves in Broken Bow, that we hear Mr. Brega and cut ourselves off in one sixth of Custer county. The same fellows could talk so much about. Our county is jus! emerging from a necessary debt. Our county supports efficient officers. It will be corth \$100 per scre " The same pays a salary that will command competent men to do our business. We have the county seat in the center of the county. We have telephone connections We used to hear them say if we would for a very small sum. you can strend to county business. We are now estiled self in one sixth of this magnificent

and ready to do business. It may baand looks possible that such nuissneeto civilization as Brega and Andrews, might divids grand old Custer county, from \$50.00 to \$70.00. and close its bistory for all eternity by heir aggressive campaign of plunder. abusive, malicious misrepresentation and scurrilous articles published in few papers that have a slice of that \$500 corruption fund for the advertisement. All those statements that smaller counties are lighter taxed may have a gram of truth connected in a certain sense. Offentimes we can find two adjoining farms in the same county where the tax of one is twice that of the other, and is, and for years has been, assessed I would like to ask Mr. Brega why it a few cases in adjoining counties, as land, Binnes 24, Sherman 2314, Valley 2214. that the small counties are taxed the heaviest, bave the poorest service and county seat advancing the price of land,

it proves really disastrous. But suppose it did advance the price in one place. does it not tear it down in another? Mr. Brega vainly tries to prove that the suiller the county, the cheaper it Of course this is a great question for can be run accordingly. Why not have precint counties, Mr.

nothing, they would be so cheap. Suppose a county suat would bring more business to Sargent, Merna, Ansley and Callaway, is it bot a fact that nearly every business is overdone in here, Mr. Brega, now that we have dinearly every western town? Does bus mess demand more grocery stores. more vided this County into four, and this drugoods stores, and more liverles? corner cannot raise the money to do the There is always a tendency amon: business o the Coup y, what are we people to get something for nothing 11 by a vote we could reach it, we would to dov'' "Shalt we disband?" No, the all vote "Aye." County will say. You now have only

But we all know the absurdity. Some one always has a panacea and is ever Double the valuation and we will be ready to present their case, but the bes then is to let well enough slone. able to raise the money for county ex-All Lask in conclusion, is for the penses That is the only thing to do, north-east and the northwest proposed unless you usage hunds, and that means counties to loos at the division lines Now, Randors, if you doubt the aigher taxes. When you pay higher to the south-east I would say, that county anat from Brokan Bow as mor tuan two fifth of the votets of that come ty, will vote to retain the county search he south-west I would say conside his question before doing somethin. you will siways be sorry for. Yours truly, JASON EVANS.

size of the county. But think of it-a body of land in this county valued for reveaue purposes at an exceedingly low valuation, but with an unpaid tax of \$250,000 00 and no one in all the county willing to pay the taxes and expense of foreclosure, in order that they may obtain the land:

In counties east of us, where land is of considerable value, it never goes begging for bidders at tax sale. Taxes there as a rule are paid.

It is the poor quality of the land and from all points in the county, where, the certainty that it will not be redeemed from tax sale that prevents purchasers of the same, for taxes. It costs as much to foreclose a lies obtained by purchase at tax sale, as it does to foreclose a mor-gage. The expanse is anywhere

Those who buy hand at fax cale, do so expecting the owner to redeem it. While the purchaser at tax cale receives 20 per cent interest per anoun for two years on theamount invested, in this county it sceme that even this great incentive is not sufficient to induce anyone to buy this land or the taxes because in order to get the money out which they put in, they are required to invest a greater amount in attorney fees, court expenses, etc., than there may not be vary much difference the amount invested, and they will not in the valuation. So it may be true in give the taxes and this expense for the

Now this reason would be the same what jugging with figures mean. To after division. Indeed, there would be my certain knowledge, it can be proven less incentive to buy the land after division than at the present time, for this coason: The purchaser at tax sale, when are least respecting. Instead of such a ne has once obtained his then sgainst the sod, must, in order to keep his lien good keep paid the subsequent (axes. the county should be divided, the val uation of this land for revenue purposes would necessarily become greater, and therefore the subsequent tares greater. and the puschaser would the more certainly refuse to buy. No fact can speak stronger against county division than the dieged fact that \$250,000 of unpaid end estate taxes at tots time exists in uster county.

#### County Bonds.

Custer county hasn't a dollar of bonded indeptedness. How is it with the counties touching us on very side.

Logan county. \$ 15,000 Blame county 12,500 Loup county 14,000Valley county 51,500 Sherman county 137.900 Buffalo county 112,500 Dawson county 103,000 Custer county None

These figures are absolutely goreet. If you doubt them, a postage stamp will bring you the information rom the county clerks of the various counties named. If a small county can be run cheaper than a large one, why don't these small counties keep out of debt?