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**VOTERS AND TAX-PAYERS**

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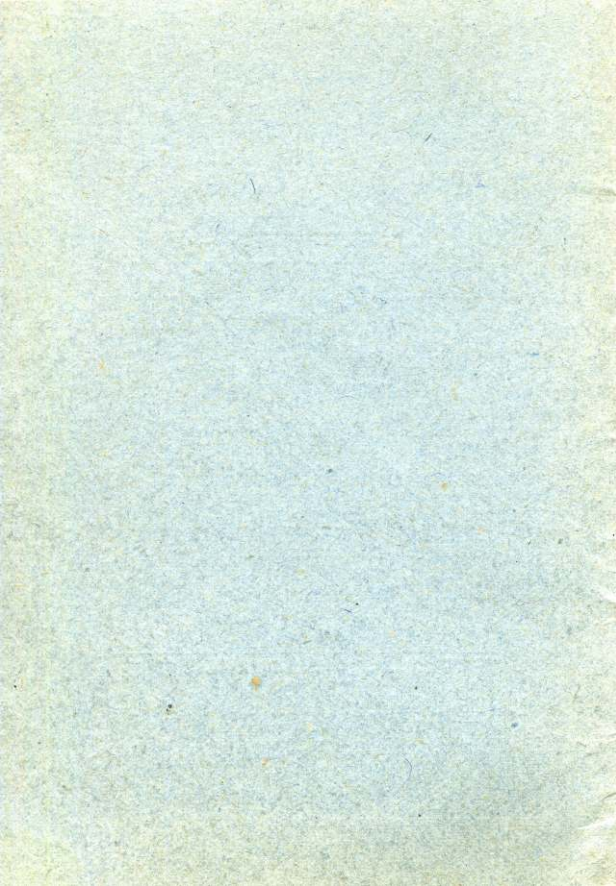
**FAYETTE COUNTY,**

**ATTENTION!**

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**S. L. WALKER, Sec.**  
**Citizens Executive Sub Committee.**



## Voters and Tax-Payers of Fayette County.

# ATTENTION!

The following figures relating to the county and district revenues and expenditures have been taken from the county court records, where they can be verified; and it behooves every citizen and tax payer to study the subject carefully before casting a vote for county officers on November 3d, next.

In 1882, J. H. Miller, George W. Imboden and Morris Harvey were the County Commissioners of Fayette, and C. H. McClung, as Sheriff, turned over to his successor, William M. Tyree, a cash balance of \$1,371.53. The following was the total levy and revenue for "County Fund" in that year, as taken from the records, as compared with the same fund in 1895, when Jenkins, Campbell and Simms were Commissioners.

## COUNTY FUNDS—RECEIPTS.

	1895.	1882.
Cash from sheriff—balance turned over.....		\$1,371 53
Levy on real estate for county fund.....	\$21,896 48	4,348 37
Levy on personal property for county fund. ....	5,909 31	1,303 35
Levy on railroads for county fund.....	10,466 45	
E. B. Hawkins, order county court .....	10,000 00	
Sales and redemption delinquent lands.....	2,758 62	84 74
Drafts Nos. 84, 76, 214, 189 and 358 canceled.....	1,265 51	
Drafts of Murray Brothers	30,699 81	
Jury and witness fees collected .....	12 00	6 00
H. A. Robson, surveyor, account school lands.....	621 60	35 00
Old taxes collected (redemption).....	231 91	1,042 91
From R. H. Boone, ex-sheriff. ....	509 79	
Received from auditor for redemption of lands.		1,257 14
Paid by M. T. Davis, clerk		204 07
J. H. Miller, ferry rent.....		10 00
	\$84,371 48	\$9,663 11
Less cash balance.....		1,371 53
		\$8,291 58



From the above it will be seen that the receipts for county funds in 1882 were \$8,291 58, while those in 1895 were \$84,371 48 on the same fund. The one shows honesty and integrity; the other shows the converse. Why should the clerk hold a county order for \$10,000 00 to be turned back into the treasury? And why should the court house contractors give the county their drafts for \$30,699 81 when the county was indebted to them? It will be observed that in 1895 the railroads paid more county levy than the entire fund amounted to in 1882, yet the levy—or amounts collected on realty and personalty from the farmers and citizens—was \$27,805.79 in 1895, against only \$5,651.72 in 1882, or nearly five times as much.

Did the tax payers get five times the benefits? Leaving out the Court House building, which will be considered later, the expenditures do not show any increased benefits or improvements. The following expenditures have been recorded and published under the certificate of the County Clerk, dated August 15th, 1896, which are also compared with the expenditures of 1882, as taken from the records.

## COUNTY FUNDS—EXPENDITURES.

	1895	1882
Amount overdrawn (Debt from last year) .....	\$ 22,078 49	\$ .....
Tax exonerations.....	268 12	12 25
For County Infirmary (Poor House) .....	1,112 00	1,126 02
For Poor elsewhere (Outside of Poor House).....	4,020 23	212 30
For Court House expenses	68,782 40	.....
For Jail expenses.....	3,758 59	76 95
For officers' salaries.....	4,775 00	1,600 00
For Com'rs Co. Court.....	138 00	.....
For Lunaics and Inquests	163 45	34 00
For witnesses, misdemeanor cases .....	644 70	28 35
For Stationery & Printing	1,643 45	83 25
For Miscellaneous Expenses.....	19,206 80	.....
For Juries and Witnesses in Misdemeanor Cases...	3,344 85	258 35
For amount overcharged Claim of S. H. Montgomery.....	54 49	.....
For interest on drafts.....	111 11	.....
For commissions paid Sheriff.....	1,991 67	621 87
For delinquencies.....	2,067 38	.....
For amount refunded, a c. H. W. Brazie.....	50 00	.....
County orders paid, list A, B, C, D.—See records for detailed statement...	.....	3,123 36

EXPENDITURES—*Continued.*

	1895	1882
Ticket on General School Fund E.....	\$ .....	\$ 88 06
Balance cash on hand.....	.....	2,398 35
	\$134,210 73	9,663 11
Less cash on hand.....		2,398 35
Cost of county fund in 1882.....		7,264 76
Cost of county fund in 1895.....	134,210 73	
Debt of county fund at end of 1895.....	49,839 25	

Note that the cost of the County Infirmary, (Poor House,) was nearly the same for both years, but in 1895 there was \$4,020.23 distributed among the poor outside, against \$212.30 in 1882. Did the poor tax payers, or the poor politicians get this difference? For "Court House Expenses" there is charged \$68,782.40, in 1895.

The amount expended in 1894 on account of this building was \$31,081.72, making cost to end of 1895, \$99,864.12.

Amount expended on building in 1894.....	\$31,081.72.
Amount charged to the Court House in 1895....	\$68,782.40
Making a total cost of Court House to end of year, 1895.....	\$99,864.12.

The insurance does not appear in the financial statement of 1895, consequently it must be assumed that it was collected and expended in 1894. We were told that this insurance and the material in old building would construct the new, but from the above figures it looks like a rat hole in which the entire resources of Fayette county might be dumped. It is claimed that the building complete, with furniture and heaters, has cost \$68,782.40. If this be true, there is a "nigger somewhere in the wood pile."

"Miscellaneous Expenses" in book-keeping generally signify and embrace only such incidentals as are too small to classify, but good business concerns do not allow such nomenclature, as the



term is misleading; yet in 1895 the miscellaneous expenses of our County Commissioners were \$19,206.80, nearly three times the entire cost of the County Fund in 1882.

The total expenditures on County and District Funds for the year 1882 were about \$15,000.00 (?). In 1895, as shown below, these expenditures aggregated \$230,211.92, and in place of a cash balance in hand, as at the end of 1882, at the end of 1895 the county debt was \$44,065.53, as published, and with the \$30,699.81 yet due Murray Bros. it is \$74,765 34, instead of the \$44,065.53, as they would have you tax payers believe.

## RECEIPTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT FUNDS FOR THE YEAR 1895.

County fund less the draft of Murray Bros. cancelled and is yet <i>unpaid</i> , but will appear in 1896 settlement,	\$53,671.67
General School Fund.....	776.97
Fayetteville Dist. Road Fund.....	6,618.58
Falls Dis. Road Fund.....	2,221.98
Kanawha Dist. Road Fund.....	4,011.24
Mountain Cove Dist. Road Fund...	3,697.76
Quinnimont " " " ...	2,167.96
Sewell Mountain " " " ...	3,462.81
Fayetteville Dist Teachers " ...	11,266.54
" " Building " ...	7,734.99
Fayetteville Ind. Dist. Teach's Fund	482.86
" " " Build'g "	177.48
Falls District Teachers "	3,555.58
" " Building "	1,868.13
Kanawha " Teachers "	12,676.05
" " Building "	4,992.67
Mountain Cove Dist. Teachers "	12,060.13
" " Building "	6,643.97
Quinnimont " Teachers "	3,947.03
" " Building "	3,437.13
Sewell Mountain " Teachers "	6,759.31
" " Building "	3,215.74
	\$155,446.58

EXPENDITURES OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT FUNDS FOR THE YEAR 1895.

County Fund .....	\$134,210 73
General School Fund.....	1,495 68
Fayetteville District Road Fund....	8,699 80
Fall District Road Fund .....	1,075 73
Kanawha District Road Fund.....	8,110 75
Mountain Cove District Road Fund	3,785 32
Quinnimont District Road Fund..	3,430 49
Sewell Mountain District Road F'd.	1,818 48
Fayetteville Dist. Teachers' Fund..	10,297 50
Fayetteville Dist. Building Fund...	5,510 66
Fayetteville Independent District Teachers' Fund.....	446 83
Fayetteville Independent District Building Fund.....	116 95
Falls District Teachers' Fund.....	2,430 02
Falls District Building Fund.....	1,565 53
Kanawha District Teachers' Fund.	12,614 38
Kanawha District Building Fund..	6,018 51
Mountain Cove Dist. Teach's Fund	9,247 48
Mountain Cove Dist. Bui'd'g Fund	6,645 61
Quinnimont Dist. Teachers' Fund..	3,969 49
Quinnimont Dist. Building Fund...	849 01
Sewell Mountain District Teachers' Fund.....	6,218 25
Sewell Mountain District Building Fund.....	1,654 72
Total Expenditures County and District Funds, 1895.....	\$230 211 92
Amount overdrawn after deduct- ing all Balances in Treasury.....	44,065 53

## To TOTAL AM'T EXPENDED IN 1895.

Road, School and County Fund.....	\$230,211.92	
By Am't recd. on above named funds.....		\$186,146.29
By Am't overdrawn.....		44,065.53
	<u>\$230,211.92</u>	<u>\$230,211.92</u>
To Am't overdrawn. ....	\$ 44,065.53	
To Am't yet due Murray Bros. on C. H.....	\$ 30,699.81	
To <i>Total Am't of Indebted-</i> <i>ness, July 1, 1896</i> .....	\$ 74,765.34	
To Total Am't drafts is- sued since July 1, 1896 on County fund only,	8,041.48	
Total Am't Indebtedness Oct. 1, 1896.....	\$ 82,806.82	



Notwithstanding the Constitutional provision against creating any county debt, without submitting all the questions connected therewith to a vote of the people, requiring a three-fifths majority of all the votes cast for and against the same; the present County Commissioners have not only saddled a large debt upon the County of Fayette, but have illegally issued obligations for a part of said debt, and the parties holding these obligations have obtained a mandamus from the Circuit Court, requiring a special levy to be laid to pay the same, thus increasing taxation beyond the limit of the law.

Citizens of Fayette county, if you submit tamely to such impositions, you will be unworthy of self government! Defend your homes by supporting the Citizen's Ticket, composed of honest business men for your county officers, regardless of politics; and by your votes, record your condemnation of the corruption and intrigue, demonstrated by your financial statement for last year, and displayed openly in the Thurmond

convention. The figures for 1895 have been taken from the Commissioners' own report, and no honest man—white or black—after comparison, can vote to continue such a burden upon himself and his neighbors.

## Constitution of West Virginia.

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### ARTICLE 10.

SEC. 8. No county, city, school district, or municipal corporation, except in cases where such corporations have already authorized their bonds to be issued, shall hereafter be allowed to become indebted, in any manner, or for any purpose, to an amount, including existing indebtedness, in the aggregate, exceeding five per centum on the value of the taxable property therein to be ascertained by the last assessment for State and County taxes, previous to the incurring of such indebtedness; nor without, at the same time, providing for the collection of a direct annual tax, suffi-

cient to pay, annually, the interest on such debt, and the principal thereof, within, and not exceeding thirty-four years; Provided, That no debt shall be contracted under this section, unless all questions connected with the same, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the people, and have received three-fifths of all the votes cast for and against the same.

### “QUERIES.”

*To the Members of the County Court and  
C. W. Dillon, Pros. Atty. :*

For what service did you pay M. J. Sims, Commissioner county court, and charge to miscellaneous account, \$1,657?

For what service did you pay N. M. Jenkins, Com. county court and charge miscellaneous account, \$229.00?

For what service did you pay Dr. H. L. Kirkpatrick and charge to miscellaneous account, \$800.00?

For what service did you pay the Glen Jean Lumber Co. and charge to miscellaneous account, \$894.24?

For what service did you pay Alfred

Phillips and charge to miscellaneous account \$855 91?

For what service did you pay during the fiscal years 1894 and 1895 excluding salary, stationery and printing, to E. B. Hawkins, clerk, and charged to miscellaneous account, \$17,365.68.

You will please let the tax payers and citizens know why you pay out *hundreds* of dollars every year to so called detectives for apprehending and bringing into the county jail persons charged with crime, when every dollar so paid out is wholly and absolutely without any legal authority whatever, as there is no law of any kind in our statutes even tending to grant such authority, but is the work and business of the sworn officers of the county and that without any reward, other than their regular fees, as for other work and is prescribed by statute.

You will please let us know if there isn't \$30,699.81 yet due Murray Bros., which you agreed to pay out of a special levy for the years, 1897, 1898, 1899, by virtue of a mandamus now on record in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Fayette county.



