

The county court this afternoon let the contract to the Herald for 50,000 24-page pamphlets at \$450. The bid of F. K. Churchill was \$433.50 and 450 Oregon Graphic's, and that of the Maston Printing Co., \$372.73, and \$6.55 for each 1000 additional.—DEMOCRAT, Feb. 7.

ADVERTISING PAMPHLET.

The county court yesterday awarded the printing of the advertising pamphlet to the Herald. The proposition of the Herald was the most favorable received and this office was the only one in Linn county that could comply with the requirements of the county COMMISSIONERS that all the work should be done at home and not farmed out away from this county, and that it should be completed in reasonable time.—Herald, February 8, 1905.

A KICK REGISTERED.

Albany, Feb. 8.—As a taxpayer in Linn county I wish to enter a decided protest against the action of the county commissioners in awarding the printing contract of the pamphlet to advertise this county to the highest bidder. I am sufficiently interested in how my money is handled by those in public trust to find out, and find out I did. I have no desire of going behind the action to analyze the motive of those guilty of juggling the public funds. The action speaks for itself. One bid was several dollars below that which was accepted, and one was almost \$80.00 less. This money was partly taken from me and I wish to register a kick.

I object, and I know I voice the sentiment of every right-minded taxpayer in Linn county when I say it, to the use of the county funds in such manner.

It is to be hoped that a sane legislature will at some time not too distant so amend the laws as to place such temptations without the reach of county commissioners. TAXPAYER.
—in DEMOCRAT, Feb. 8.

On February 9, the Herald comes back at "TAXPAYER", and in trying to justify itself for the disreputable course it has pursued in the matter, scatters like an old rusty double-barreled shot gun, and makes so many innuendoes and insinuations, that the half-column of tommy-rot is hardly worth the attention of the public to its mouthings.

But lest the Herald imagine in its bloated pomposity, that it has silenced men who made an honest bid for the printing of the pamphlet; we accept the following challenge it has recklessly thrown out in its last convulsive effort to make good.

"Does any other gentleman, to borrow the expression of Sam Weller, desire to ask more questions?"—Herald.

We certainly do, and the undersigned will accommodate you: Under your head "As to the pamphlet," make good the following assertion:

"The Herald when a misstatement finds its way into circulation regarding the placing of the Lewis & Clark printing has done through the DEMOCRAT of Tuesday, that suitable correction will follow in due course."—Herald.

Please point out what misstatement the DEMOCRAT or its correspondent has made, regarding this pamphlet business, or acknowledge by your silence that you are a stupid "donky".

Why in your impotent rage, jump on the DEMOCRAT man in the following dirty fling:

"That the Democrat is willing to offer its columns as cities of refuge to the knocker, masked or natural, giving his name, writing over an alias... is matter of small concern to the Herald or to the community, except that any unfair or immoral proposition must fail to command the respect of the decent."—Herald.

Now, Mr. Horse-editor, show where the DEMOCRAT or its correspondent in this pamphlet business, has made any unfair or immoral propositions. The items show for themselves—you can't.

Again you say: "The county court of Linn county and the Herald printing office have standing enough to afford to disregard opportunities for uncalled for controversy."—Herald.

Now then, if you are honest in what you state in this paragraph of your rot, why waste a whole half-column of your VALUABLE EDITORIAL space? But you're not; and we go you one better and propose an amendment to the above paragraph, in order to unmask your subterfuge and attempted hoodwinking of a long suffering public. Here is the amendment:

The tail end of the county court of Linn county and the Herald printing office have understanding enough to afford to disregard opportunities for uncalled for controversy. Is the amendment accepted?

We doubt your statement in this proposition. Can you get the County Judge of Linn county to endorse this paragraph of soft soap? If not the public will pronounce you an asinine humbug!

The Herald boasts of its standing in Linn county. There is only one animal mentioned in Natural History that stands on its tail—the Kangaroo. But when a lucrative contract is in sight, the Herald with the aid of its Linn county court "tail", can jump higher and farther than any Kangaroo ever kitted in Australia.

Now, Mr. Herald, why did you not submit a sealed bid for the pamphlet work, like other honest men, and abide by the result, and not depend upon backing and filling to carry out your greedy designs?

Here are some facts Mr. Herald, that you can chew on at your leisure:

The county court agreed to furnish the Commercial Club funds to print 50,000 pamphlets. The Herald appeared before the county court and proposed to do the work for \$500, without asking for bids. The Herald did not want any bids submitted, claiming they were entitled to the work in consideration of the free advertising they were doing in their paper. The County Judge objected to this proposition; it being fresh in his memory, how the Herald-Brodie Bros. Co. combination, skinned this community out of nearly \$200 on the last batch of Linn county literature, and the largest portion of this work was FARMED OUT as the Herald puts it. That if the work had been given to the lowest bidder, that it would have been done in this city and employment given to a number of Albany citizens. And the pamphlets delivered in a much shorter time.

The Pamphlet Committee of the Commercial Club, asked the undersigned for a bid on this pamphlet several weeks ago, but before the bid was opened by the Club, the county commissioners, Messrs Butler and Russell appeared on the scene asking for bids on the same work, stating that they didn't want the Commercial Club to interfere with their business and they did not want to interfere with the business of the Club. That the county court was to furnish the funds, and that they had the right to let the contract, to all of which we have no objections whatever.

The undersigned prepared a sealed bid and delivered the same to the County Judge the next morning prior to the opening of the court.

The record shows the following:

There were only two sealed bids submitted:

That of the Maston Printing Co., for \$372.73; and F. K. Churchill, for \$433.50, and that after these bids were opened by the court, the same gentlemen who solicited them, through Mr. Russell as speaker, presented a verbal proposition of the Herald, to do the work for \$450.00 and the proceeded to award the contract at that figure, under the protest of the County Judge.

After the contract was let the DEMOCRAT man asked for the figures which are public property, to use as a matter of news was refused and was obliged to seek the information from the bidders themselves.

The next morning the Herald boasted over securing the contract.—See the second paragraph in this article.

This was followed by the "KICK" in the DEMOCRAT (*with which I had nothing to do*). That same evening the Herald appeared before the county court, and voluntarily reduced their price from \$450.00 to \$420.00. This is a matter of record and can be substantiated.

We do not hesitate the assertion that it was the understanding and a concocted scheme and on the program, that the Herald was to be awarded this contract regardless of justice in the matter.

But why was this \$30.00 reduction in our price made, after you had secured the PLUM? Someone's conscience must be bothering them.

For myself personally I claim no strings on this job and have no right to the contract, not being the lowest bidder. But when the horse-editor of the Herald bobs up with the assertion that they have the only plant in Linn county that can do this particular job, without "farming it out," as he puts it. He wilfully and unhesitatingly made a statement which he knew was not true.

There is not a job office in this city but what can handle this pamphlet, and that the work will be executed just as good and just as quickly as it will be done by the Herald. We always have advocated the letting of public work to lowest bidder. We have been in this city over three years, and have never yet bought a job. We are trying to do a legitimate business, without throwing mud. We let our work go on its merit. And our motto: Equal rights and justice to all.

F. K. CHURCHILL.