

The Daily Astorian. ASTORIA, OREGON: FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1887. COUNTY FINANCES.

In another column is given an official statement of the condition of the county's finances, consisting of condensed abstracts of reports of the sheriff, treasurer and clerk. From the treasurer's report we find that on the beginning of the fiscal year there was on hand the sum of \$15,794.99, and that during the fiscal year just ended there was paid into his hands the sum of \$50,231.40. During the same time he paid out \$55,971.05; there is now cash on hand to the amount of \$10,055.34. Of this \$10,055.34, about half is applicable to pay warrants; about \$1,600 of it is held to pay warrants long since advertised as having had interest stopped on them, but not yet presented; the remainder is in the school fund and due in Salem on state taxes of 1886.

Exhibit No. 3 is a very creditable one to the county court. According to this the total expenses of the fiscal year, ending July 1st, 1887, was a little over \$17,000, and included in this, is \$2,269 expense of putting the court house and county offices in proper repair, which, according to the report, would make the cost of running the county for the last year, in round numbers, \$15,000. The items in exhibit 3 show that the expenses in several important details have been kept down. The happy absence of criminal trials, etc., at the sessions of the circuit court, and the careful supervision of the circuit judge, has enabled a modification of the usual heavy bills attending a session of the court, and the reduced expense bills of other branches of the county service will be noted with gratified interest by taxpayers.

The figures make it look as if by a judicious continuation of economy the county would sometime be enabled to throw off the incubus of debt which has been gradually augmenting and which has been and is grievously felt in the comparatively heavy taxation made necessary. Reference to exhibit 2 shows that during the year the treasurer has paid \$32,359.38, principal and interest of county orders that were issued prior to July 1st, 1886. This is a large sum of money, but it is paid now, and that much wiped out. It would increase the clearness of the report were it possible to know just what amount of indebtedness in the shape of county warrants is still outstanding.

In a statement subjoined to the report the county clerk says that the debt of the county at the beginning of the fiscal year of 1886-7, was over \$10,000 more than the report and estimate made at the time, and that as near as can be estimated the present debt of the county is over \$52,000—this after paying in principal and interest over \$32,000.

There is but one way to get out of debt and that is by a continuance of reduced expenses and provision for the payment of the \$50,000 and odd still remaining. It is but just to say that the judge of the circuit court, the justices of the peace, and all the county and precinct officers have co-operated with the county court in this matter and made the expenses of the year as near the minimum as possible. It is only by such co-operating on the part of the public as well as efforts of the officials that the county can get out of debt. During the year there has been a reduction in principal and interest of over \$20,000, the most gratifying exhibit we have been able to chronicle for some time.

Economy is as necessary in the management of public business as private business. The rejection of unjust and outrageous claims, the scrutiny and supervision of all demands, the wise direction of expenditures and the consciousness of how rapidly unchecked expenses accumulate, are matters familiarly necessary to every business man in his everyday business. They are equally necessary to be borne in mind by those who administer the public business. Economy is not stinginess nor the saving of money by not spending it. To save \$5 or \$5,000 by refusing to spend it isn't economy. Economy is only another name for good management. If it is well to save five cents, if the spending of five cents is not necessary, save the five cents; that is economy. If it is necessary or needful to spend ten thousand dollars, spend it, pay it out at once; that is economy. This is a fact generally recognized and understood and in the practical application of this economy lies the solution of all financial difficulties and the attainment of prosperity, public and private.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT. County Funds For Quarter Ending July 1st, 1887.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'To delinquent tax roll of 1886, per report April '87'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'To am't delinquent tax roll for year 1886'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'To am't on hand per last report April '87'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By warrants paid'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By am't paid state treasurer'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By am't paid school orders'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By am't paid warrants fund "A"'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By am't paid interest on same'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'To bal. cash on hand'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By school orders paid'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By state tax 1886 paid in full'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By int. on bonds paid in coin'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By county orders paid, issued prior to July, 1886'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By int. paid on same'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'By cash on hand'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'Am't in school fund'.

Table with columns for Sheriff's Report, Contra. CR., and various financial entries like 'To am't delinquent tax roll for year 1886'.

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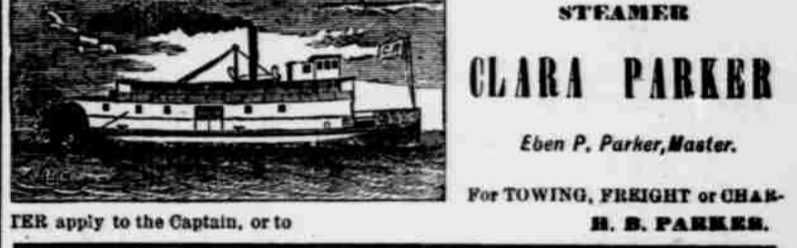


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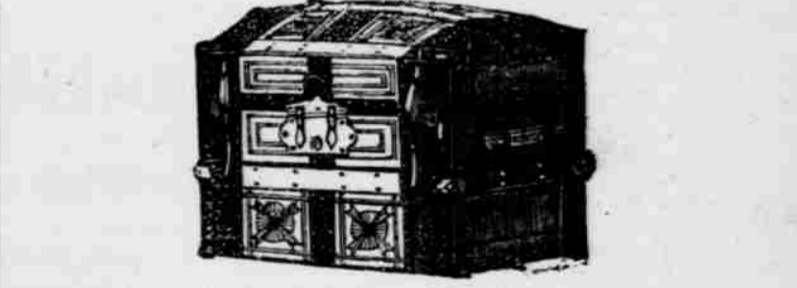
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