Facts! Facts!

UNDENIABLE PROOFS!

It is the constant cry of New Berlin—and of some citizens who take mere assertion as truth, without investigating it—that a Division of Union county would impose a burden upon each section of $20 to $50,000 for County Buildings, and that all would have to be paid by Taxation—that the annual cost of maintaining *each* county would be as great as the *whole* now is—and that in case of Division the people would in a few years be "more clamorous to be set back, than they now are to be separated."

Not a word of *proof* is offered of any of these assertions—no FACTS, demonstrated by the experience of other counties.

Although it is not our duty in such a controversy to *prove a negative*, still we have been at some pains so to do. We wrote copies of the following interrogatories, to gentlemen in the new counties of Wyoming, Carbon, Juniata, Montour, &c., and have received the replies which are hereto annexed. ☞And we deem it proper here to state, that we had no prior knowledge of the views of the gentlemen addressed; we gave no private opinion, wish, or intimation, respecting the subject matter; and we give *all* the replies, without mutilation, addition, alteration, or suppression. Each writer, as we believe, gives his opinion as he would under oath; and we have every confidence in their integrity and intelligence. We first submitted them, last Fall—no attempt has been made to confute them, or to show other New Counties which would give evidence of a different character. We now republish them for general information—and we ask every candid, honest, sensible reader, if such men are not much more deserving of belief than the mere *say so* of personally interested or entirely uninformed men!

Interrogatories.

LEWISBURG, Aug. —, 1854.

DEAR SIR: Will you oblige me by answering, to the best of your knowledge, the following inquiries:

1. What was the cost of your County Buildings, when first adapted to use? are they sufficient for the wants of the County? and were they erected by taxation?

2. Are the taxes of ——— county perceptibly higher, in proportion to the property than they were say ten years previous to the division?

3. Is there any general inclination to have ——— and ——— counties re-united, as they were before the Division?

4. Have or have not the general interests of the people of the two counties—socially, morally, and pecuniarily—been benefited by the division?

The substance of your replies I desire for publication, with your permission.

Respectfully &c.
O. N. WORDEN.

Replies.

WYOMING COUNTY.

EATON, Aug. 14, 1854.

DEAR SIR.—I received yours of the 7th, and take pleasure in answering your questions according to the best information I have upon the subjects of inquiry:

1. The cost of our County Buildings, when first occupied, was about $4,500, (four thousand five hundred dollars,) paid principally by subscriptions. They have been sufficient for all useful purposes; there has been some complaint about the Jail, but it is well enough when well attended.

2. The Taxes of Wyoming county, are higher than when set off from Luzerne; the ratio of taxation has advanced from 5 to 8 mills on the dollar.

3. I know of no desire in the people of Wyoming to be re-annexed to Luzerne; they would as soon think of being re-annexed to Great Britain.

4. The people of Wyoming have undoubtedly been benefited by the separation. It has infused energy, and concentrated action, awakened an independent spirit of inquiry and improvement, both pecuniary and moral, greater than would have been, had they remained frontier townships of Luzerne.

Luzerne, I think, has lost nothing by the change; it relieved her somewhat of an overburthen of legal business, which is said to be still too great.

I believe I have answered your questions in brief, which you can use as to you may seem proper.

And believe me yours sincerely.
JESSE HARDING.

Mr. O. N. WORDEN.

REMARKS.

Wyoming county was formed about ten years ago, with less than ten thousand inhabitants; and its Valuation, even now, is under One Million of Dollars. Its Court House and Offices are in one building, commodious, and even elegant; its Jail is of brick, with a stone foundation, and stone yard upon one side. The division has proved beneficial in every respect, for its increase of taxes, *three mills* on the dollar, is made up by gains in other respects, thrice over. ☞Each portion of Union county, if divided, would be near double the population of Wyoming, when organised; and each would contain THREE TIMES the amount of taxable property. Wyoming has no regrets for her separation, small as she is in wealth and numbers. Our correspondent is a respectable and intelligent Farmer and Justice of the Peace, no way interested in the County Seat.

CARBON COUNTY.

MAUCH CHUNK, Aug. 15, 1854.

DEAR SIR.—As I came to the county of Carbon soon after its separation from Northampton, I thought it proper, before answering your inquiries, to submit them to older residents, and those having held offices, both before and since the Division. Having consulted the present Sheriff, Prothonotary, Register, and others, I now reply according to the best information I can obtain.

1. When the county of Carbon was set off from Northampton (1843,) the Lehigh Company gave a large stone store, in this Borough, with the land, free; the cost of fitting it up for a Court House, building a County Jail, &c., I have not been able to ascertain. This was destroyed by fire in 1849, and a new Court House, Jail, Jail Yard, Jailor's House, and County Offices, erected on the same site, completed in 1851, at a cost of about $18,000. The expenses have all been paid by Tax, except I think the Legislature exonerated the County of her quota of State Tax one year, on account of the destructive Fire. They are entirely "sufficient for the wants of the county," and will be for years to come.

2. The County Taxes are now 2½ mills on the dollar—about the same they were generally before the Division; but while the people were paying for the Court House, they were as high as five mills. The County Buildings are now paid for—a Bridge costing $8,000, built last year, is also paid for—and the last debt of any magnitude against the County, (except one for closing up an odious Turnpike, now in law,) will be paid, I am informed, this week.

3. There is no desire to be set back to Northampton; such a proposition would not receive the approval of one in a hundred. Nor is there any wish, in Northampton, to have it so.

4. The general interests of the two counties socially, morally, and politically, have been benefited by the separation—this is the uniform testimony of all I have consulted on the subject.

S. H. TAYLOR.

Mr. O. N. WORDEN.

REMARKS.

The writer of the above is a Vermonter, owns a farm in Susquehanna county, but works at his trade (printing) in Mauch Chunk. Carbon and Northampton have a mountain barrier between them, broken by the valley of the Lehigh. During the ten years of its independent existence, the new county of Carbon has about doubled in wealth and population, but its entire Valuation is *even now less than half* that of Union. Yet that people have expended for County Buildings, $20,000, by *direct Taxation*, and are perfectly satisfied that they are benefited by the outlay. And why? Because Mauch Chunk is a *business center*, and the saving of Time—"Time is Money"—is equal to 20 pr ct. interest on the capital invested in buildings, &c.

(The plan for dividing Union county is more favorable to the Tax-Payers, for it contemplates having County Seats on the avenues of trade and travel, and that too without any expense to the people except in the way of voluntary contributions.)

JUNIATA COUNTY.

JUNIATA Co., Aug. 30, '54.

DEAR SIR—Some time since I received a letter of inquiry from you, to which I answer as follows:

1. The cost of Court House, Offices, Jail, and Jail wall for this county, was about $10,000. They were erected by Taxation, entirely. The Court Room is not large, but answers our purpose very well, and will do for time to come, if litigation does not increase.

2. The Taxes of Juniata county were increased about one-fourth, for three or four years after the Division. The per centage on the assessment was then reduced to about what we had been paying before Division, and for the last fifteen years the per centage on the assessed property has been lower than it was for the same period before the Division.

3. There never has been amongst us a desire to be set back to or connected with Mifflin county.

4. The general interests of the people of the counties—or, at least, of Juniata—have as I think been promoted in every way by the Division. Previously, we had about eight weeks of Court in Mifflin per year. Parties with their witnesses would have to attend, Term after Term, often for years, before they could get their suits tried, and it was seldom that a cause could be tried the year after it was entered. In many cases, poor men or small capitalists, rather than bear the expense of going from below the Narrows with their witnesses year after year, suffered losses and impositions—for Justice would have cost more than it was worth in money. We in Juniata now have but three regular Terms of Court a year, and one Orphan's Court, and our Courts have not averaged more than four days each Term, (four Terms a year,) for the last fifteen years; and it is seldom that a suit is on our docket, undisposed of, one year, where the parties push them on for trial, and the expenses to the litigants are reduced one half. Before the Division, we had but few County Bridges; now we can have them all through our county, and pass over the creeks on county bridges built by taxation.

We had about twenty years' struggling for our separation before we accomplished it; the last ten years of that time, every measure was resorted to in the election of our Legislative officers, by one portion to get, and by the other to stop, Division.

These statements are correct to the best of my recollection and knowledge.

Truly yours, &c.
Mr. O. N. WORDEN. JOHN BEALE.

The above is from an aged and highly respected citizen of Juniata, formerly an Associate Judge, and also Sheriff of the county, and recently the Representative of Union and Juniata in the Legislature.

MONTOUR COUNTY.

"*Democrat*" *Office,*
DANVILLE, Aug. 26, 1854.

O. N. Worden, Esq.—Dear Sir: In answer to your inquiries relative to the Division of Columbia county, the cost of public buildings, expenses of sustaining a separate county organization, &c., I will give you all the information in my power.

The public buildings belonging to Columbia county, consisting of Court House, Jail, &c., at the time the seat of justice was removed from Danville to Bloomsburg, were sold at public auction, and purchased for the use of the Borough, at a very low price, viz: about $1,750. These buildings, upon the organization of the county of Montour, were repaired and fitted up, by the Borough of Danville, at a cost of some $2,500, besides the original purchase money, and conveyed to the County, free of any charge to the county. These buildings are sufficient for the wants of our county.

The taxes of that portion of Columbia county now comprising Montour, have been less, since the organization, than the average rates for the ten years preceding that event. My own recollection is, that every year during the ten years preceding the organization of Montour county, the county rates were higher than they have been any one year in Montour county, since its erection. I of course speak without reference to the tax books, but am certain that the county taxes have been less since the separate organization, than the average for the ten years preceding.

There is no desire on the part of any considerable portion of our people to be re-annexed to Columbia county. On the contrary, all are well satisfied with the separation, and would resist re-annexation with as much earnestness as they ever fought against the removal of the seat of justice. Some of the same persons, who from personal and political considerations always favored the Bloomsburg interest—that interest in the whole of old Columbia being the predominant one—still, for the same reasons, adhere to Bloomsburg; but the mass are not with them.

As to the fourth question, I can only answer that the general interests of Montour county have certainly not been injured by the division, and I do not believe that the general interests of Columbia have suffered any. Socially, the people of the two Counties have been benefited—there is certainly a better state of feeling between the two, now, than existed for years before. Pecuniarily, as I said before, I think neither has been injured—Montour certainly benefited. Morally, perhaps, the only effect that can be attributed directly to division or the organization of the new county, is, the moral influence which results from the facility afforded for punishing small offences. The dread of the prison and the Court may, and doubtless does, exert an influence in the Borough of Danville, as many of the smaller offences would go unpunished, if the expense and trouble of prosecution were much increased by distance. Very resp'lly, Yours &c.

CHARLES COOK.

Mr. COOK is Editor of the *Democrat*, and resided in the county several years prior to its erection.—His testimony is confirmed by that of Col. BEST, of the *Intelligencer*, who stated in an Editorial of nearly the same date—

"The Court terminated on Tuesday evening, on which day all the Jurors were discharged. The County Treasurer, Col. Deen, was present, with ample funds to cash all county orders. Our affairs, in the hands of the present Commissioners, are well managed; and, altogether, Montour county is prospering, although it does not afford much law business, or require protracted sessions of the Court."

COLUMBIA COUNTY.

BLOOMSBURG, July 28, 1854.

Mr. SAMUEL SHRINER.

DEAR SIR—In answer to yours of the 26th, I have collected the following statistics:

The cost of our Court House was	$8,217 21
The cost of the Jail was	3,690 00
Total, exclusive of building lots	11,907 21

Of this sum, $2,500 was paid by the County, and the balance by the citizens in voluntary subscriptions.

The following is the rate of County Tax assessed since 1840, in Columbia:

1840—30	cts. on the $100 valuation.	
1841—40	" " "	
1842—25	" " "	
1843—20	" " "	
1844—20	" " "	
1845—10	County deeply in debt—done for political effect to defeat Removal, and re-acted very severely.	
1846—10		
1847—25	Removal took place.	
1848—25	cts. on the $100 valuation.	
1849—30	" " "	
1850—30	Division effected.	
1851—30	cts. on the $100 valuation	
1852—25	" " "	
1853—20	" " "	
1854—20	" " "	

You will observe our tax is much the same as before. I remain very truly yours.

R. W. WEAVER.

REMARKS.

Mr. Weaver is a respectable Lawyer, Editor of the *Star of the North*, and Superintendent of Common Schools for Columbia county.

CLINTON COUNTY.

LOCK HAVEN, Sept. 21, 1854.

H. C. HICKOK, Esq.—Dear Sir: I have received your letter propounding certain questions, as follows, and you will find my answer appended to each:

1st. "What was the cost of your (Clinton) County buildings when finished for use? Are they sufficient for the wants of the county, and were they erected by taxation?"

Reply. The cost of the Court House and Jail amounted to about $20,000. They are sufficient for the wants of the county, both Court House and Jail being spacious and conveniently arranged. These buildings were erected by taxation.

2. "Are the taxes of Clinton county perceptibly higher, in proportion to the property than they were, say ten years previous to the division?"

Reply. The taxes were never very high in this county for county purposes, and I do not think they were at any time higher than in the old counties of Lycoming and Centre, from which Clinton was erected. The county was organized in the fall of 1839. Our county tax is now (1854) 2½ mills to the dollar of valuation. There is more revenue now in the Co. than will pay all her liabilities. Besides the erection of the public buildings, the county has been at great expense in erecting and repairing bridges—one bridge alone costing $3000.

3d. "Is there any general inclination to have Lycoming and Clinton counties re-united as they were before the division?"

Reply. No such inclination has existence within the limits of Clinton county, but every person is content and more than satisfied.

4th. "Have or have not the general interests of the people of the two counties been benefited by the division?"

Reply. I think without doubt they have. Clinton county is in a decided state of prosperity, and a large share of this must be attributed to the erection of the new county.

Very respectfully, C. A. MAYER.

Mr. Mayer is Clerk to the Commissioners of Clinton county, and is therefore well qualified to testify in the matter. The valuation of Clinton county is rated below $2,000,000—which is *one third* less than either Union or Snyder would have, in case of a Division. The $20,000 Court House and Jail were built, we understand, when wages &c., were higher than now.

We have thus given to our readers the experience of the counties of JUNIATA, CLINTON, MONTOUR, COLUMBIA, CARBON, and WYOMING, all bearing witness that small counties are *not* more burdensome to the people than larger counties. We doubt not BLAIR, FULTON, and other new counties would have borne similar testimony, if they had been called out.

—In view of these FACTS, we appeal to every citizen not personally interested at New Berlin, to vote for a separation demanded by the course of events, and which will aid *private interests, personal convenience*, and prove TRUE ECONOMY.

A Case Exactly in Point!

The case of COLUMBIA and MONTOUR, may afford a mirror for UNION and SNYDER. In size, before Division, they had of square miles—

Columbia 575—Union 650

In population—

Columbia, 1850, 17,710
Montour " 13,239—30,949—Union, '54, 31,784

In valuation—

Columbia, $3,112,683
Montour 1,864,427—4,977,410—Union 6,053,530

In size and population, the original counties were about equal—in wealth, Union is one-sixth superior. About 1850, the county of Montour was erected; and the effect, on both the daughter and mother counties, may be seen by the testimony of Messrs. WEAVER, COOK and BEST.

The $10 Vote.

The Antis, we learn, are stating that nobody can vote for County Buildings without paying $10 tax. This is wholly, entirely false. Sec. 10 shows that every legal voter may vote for the guaranteeing town, township, or Borough where the County Seat is asked for. Secs. 5 and 6 show that "Subscribers" to the building fund shall elect their own building committees, and also committees to locate the precise spot where the buildings are to be, ☞*after the site has been determined on.* Is not this right? Ought not they who spend their own money, to say who shall expend it? "to be approved by a majority of the Court and Grand Jurors of the respective counties," (Sec. 3.) Would those who contribute nothing to a building, desire to dictate in the matter? Surely not. Some mode of appointing a building committee was necessary, to save the County the expense; and we know no better way than for those who pay the money, to choose their own disbursers.

The Pottsville Fraud.

The N.B. *Star* of last week revived the false accusation that the people of Pottsville agreed to construct a Court House and Jail in the event of a removal from Orwigsburg. We showed last fall from the Laws,* that Pottsville *never* agreed to erect the Jail. They agreed to put up the other County Buildings, and they did so. The Jail, by the law allowing the removal, was to be built at the county expense, and was so built. The vast increase of population in the county, and the desperate character of its prisoners, show that the Jail is none too large or too strong. (Had the county been divided, they might have escaped the Jail Tax.) Our County Buildings are to be "subject to approval by the Court and Grand Jurors of the respective counties." For Union, a Bond of $50,000 is on file at New Berlin, and $15,000 for Snyder, securing the people, as firmly as Law can secure it, against the imposition New Berlin prates about.

*See Pamphlet Laws for 1847, pages 330 and 331, and you will find the following provisions:

"SECTION 2. That if a majority of the voters of said county of Schuylkill, qualified as aforesaid, voting on said question of removal shall decide in the manner provided in the first section of this act, in favor of the removal of the seat of justice, in said county, to the borough of Pottsville, the citizens of Pottsville, in said county, shall erect, or cause to be erected, at their own proper expense, within 3 years from and after such election, in the borough of Pottsville, aforesaid, SUITABLE BUILDINGS, OF BRICK OR STONE, FOR A COURT HOUSE and different OFFICES FOR THE SAFE KEEPING OF THE COUNTY RECORDS, under the direction of the county commissioners for said county, who are hereby authorized to receive a conveyance for a lot or lots of ground, for the use of the county of Schuylkill, in fee simple, clear of all incumbrances, the said buildings to be erected on such lot or lots of ground thus conveyed; *and the county commissioners for said county are hereby authorized and required,* AT THE EXPENSE OF SAID COUNTY, *to erect and build a suitable* COUNTY PRISON AND JAIL, of brick or stone, in said borough of Pottsville, within said three years after such election, as aforesaid."

Under these plain and explicit provisions the people voted. They voted to select Pottsville for the county seat instead of the geographical center at Orwigsburg. The people of Pottsville *did* put up at their own expense a suitable "brick Court House and Offices for the county records." The County Commissioners *did* put up a "county prison and Jail of stone," at the expense of the county tax-payers. Thus the very letter of a plain and unambiguous law was executed.

The reader will observe that the Lewisburg bond is for "*all the necessary buildings and grounds.*" What was promised for Pottsville by the law was Court House and County Offices *only*—while, as if to guard all but the veriest fools from a possibility of mistake, the same section in express terms requires the erection of a prison or Jail by County Taxes.

The bonds it will be seen are not alike, nor was Pottsville required to put up a Jail. The large increase of criminals incident to the growing coal business, required a large and strong new Jail, somewhere; and it was as easy for the County to erect it at Pottsville as at Orwigsburg.

County Valuation.

We learn, accidentally, that the New Berliners are industriously circulating, on the *south* side of the county, that they would be *too poor* to sustain themselves, and that it is best for them to hang together so as to reap the benefits of the heavy taxes wrung from the fat farmers throughout Buffaloe Valley. How much of truth there is in this sly little trick, the following statement from the last Triennial Assessment (1853) will show:

South Side.		*North Side.*	
Beaver	$397,609	Buffaloe	$633,486
West Beaver	222,905	East Buffaloe	367,263
Centre	475,663	West Buffaloe	303,385
Chapman	183,772	Hartley	516,098
Middlecreek	124,125	Kelly	401,712
Penns	797,775	Limestone	291,949
Perry	231,802	White Deer	278,227
Washington	294,389	Lewisburg	356,884
Union ½	121,423	Mifflinburg	134,434
		New Berlin	157,582
		Union ½	242,846
	$2,849,463		
	3,683,866		$3,683,866
	$6,533,329		

(The amounts have of course since increased, particularly at Trevorton on the South side.)

By this official statement, it appears that the North side had only $834,403 most taxable property. It is an insult to the farmers of Penns, Chapman, Perry, Washington, Franklin, and the Beavers, to tell them they are such poor farmers and have so little property that they can not set up independence, but must hang upon Buffaloe Valley for a living! No, no—Snyder county has now a valuation of $3,000,000, and would be abundantly able to sustain herself. The only trouble Division would cause would be to the New Berliners, who would no longer have *both counties* to use for their own aggrandizement.

Docket and Transcribing Scarecrow.

The transcribing of the records alluded to in Sect. 20, are *only* those of "suits and cases which shall be pending and undetermined" when removed to Snyder county, (just as a transcript of the records needed was made when Union county was erected.) We understand John Schrack, Esq., offers to do the whole for less than $150, while the New Berliners profess that it will cost Snyder county "Thousands of Dollars,"—the *Times* says $2 to $3,000, while the *Volksfreund* puts it up to $4,000—(and perhaps would if they had the job.) There will not be over 100 cases, at most, and the dockets will be needed by Snyder county at any rate.

Postscript!

Since writing the above, the following Certificate has been received, which to all who know JOHN SCHRACK will be satisfactory on the point at issue. None could do the job better than Mr. Schrack—not even the N. Berlin speculators who would like to make $2 to $3,000 out of it!

To the People of the proposed New County:

Whereas, the New Berlin papers and handbills circulated throughout the county during the past week, state that it will cost the county of Snyder from Two to Four Thousand dollars to have the records transcribed under the provisions of the 20th section of the act of General Assembly approved the 2d day of March, 1855, entitled "An act for the erection of a new county out of part of Union, to be called Snyder, and relative to the seat of justice in Union county,"

NOW I do hereby agree and bind myself, to purchase the Dockets and copy all the Records for the county of Snyder as required by said 20th section of the act of 2d of March, A. D. 1855, for the sum of *One Hundred and Twenty-Five* Dollars; and if required I will give security for the performance of the above, in any amount.

JOHN SCHRACK.

East Buffaloe, March 12, 1855.

Reliable Data.

The following statistics are designed to illustrate the gradual increase of business facilities, as developed by the increase of population, along the River districts of Union county:

	Population in 1850.	Increase in 10 yrs.	Whole Vote Gov. 1854.
River Districts.			
White Deer	1537	285	296
Kelly	834	46	172
Buffaloe	1518	190	267
Lewisburg	2012	792	438
East Buffaloe	970	158	160
Union	*752	*100	172
Penns } Selinsgrove }	2762	482	319 / 239
Washington	1239	104	223
Chapman	1488	209	285
	13132	2366	2570
Central and Western.			
Perry	1329	75	195
West Beaver } Beaver }	1218 / 1629	238	205 / 268
Franklin } Center }	2172	281	207 / 160
Middlecreek	614	52	104
Limestone	807		127
Jackson	*700	*76	152
West Buffaloe	1007		182
Hartley	2139	263	337
Mifflinburg	783	79	155
New Berlin	754	75	144
	13152	1139	2236

*Estimated—Limestone and Jackson townships were erected from Union and West Buffaloe. The total gain of the four townships was 176—most of which was in the neighborhood of Winfield, in Union township.

These facts prove, that from 1840 to 1850, the River districts gained 2366, and the Central and Western districts gained 1139—over 2 to 1 in favor of the River districts. In 1850, the River districts were 20 less in population; in 1854, they had a majority of 334 votes—showing that the same rate of progress still continues. As an example of this increase, we would notice that Lewisburg gave 291 votes for Governor in 1847, 339 votes for President in 1851, and 381 in 1851; that 448 persons voted last fall, while now, as we are informed, there are over 500 voters' names on the lists, (and a universal turnout, during this season when our boatmen &c. are generally all at home, will exhibit that number of votes.) White Deer, Winfield, Penns, and Chapman would exhibit a similar ratio of increase.—On the other hand, New Berlin polled 147 votes for Governor in 1847, and 144 for the same office last fall.—The reason of all this is obvious: the mercantile, mechanical and manufacturing branches of industry which naturally cluster along rivers, inevitably enlarge population faster than the more stable agricultural interest, which however is always advanced by the prosperity of any other interest in its vicinity....These figures show that the *tendency* of numbers is *from* and not *towards* the geographical center. In all probability, this tendency will continue; and in locating the new County Buildings which must be built somewhere soon, facts of this nature ought not to be overlooked.

—The annexed table shows the Votes on the Division (and Bond) trial in 1853, and the last two contests for Assembly. None of these tests were fair and unembarrassed from side issues; but as they afford some clue to popular feeling—and show the fluctuations of public opinion—it will be valuable for reference, estimate, and comparison:

	1853 Division. For.	1853 Division. Against.	1853 Assembly. Sim'n.	1853 Assembly. Barb.	1854 Assembly. Sim'n.	1854 Assembly. Cranf.
White Deer	36	79	127	27	58	227
Kelly	85	14	92	24	54	114
Buffaloe	85	85	134	61	114	147
Lewisburg	339	1	88	242	6	435
East Buffaloe	108	3	98	32	19	143
Union	27	190	127	108	93	73
Penns	348	82	153	274	125	182
Selinsgrove					7	245
Chapman	180	16	51	139	118	167
Perry	106	25	82	60	153	30
Washington	141	39	69	111	99	122
West Beaver	1	183	177	21	202	3
Beaver	0	257	206	61	252	22
Franklin	45	119	108	74	135	66
Center	0	139	124	23	150	9
Middlecreek	1	110	56	62	85	17
Hartley	56	73	170	90	160	171
West Buffaloe	38	79	67	75	135	42
Mifflinburg	54	61	49	92	90	63
Limestone	1	137	76	67	120	6
Jackson					154	1
New Berlin	0	138	77	60	145	2
	1649	1830	2131	1702	2472	2287
		1649	1702		2287	
Majorities		181	419		185	

—And the Petitions and Remonstrances in round numbers were as follows:

Division—	Petitions for.	Remonstrances against.
In 1853	2300	1900
1854	3100	2100
1855	3200	27*

*Memorialized.

Some citizens refused to sign *any* paper in reference to Division—others signed *all*. But if citizens vote generally as they have petitioned, there would seem no doubt but that Division will carry.

Who Complains?

Small counties—division of old counties—formation of new ones—have frequently occurred in our State, and always created alarm, and excitement. But when once effected, how many are changed? Which of our new counties complains? Who want to be "set back?" Would Union go back to Northumberland? or Northumberland to Berks? Juniata go back to Mifflin? or Blair to Huntingdon? or Montour to Columbia? or Clinton to Lycoming? Not one. They find all rational advantages anticipated, more than realized.

County Expenses.—The Sheriff, Prothonotary, and Register are paid by their *fees*. The Treasurer has a *per centage*. Commissioners and Criers, Constables, Tipstaves, Jurors, and Witnesses, *by the day*. Judges paid *by the State*. Auditors, Assessors, Clerks, Election Officers, &c., &c., are all paid *according to the work done*. Bridge Expenses, a part to each county—&c. &c. ☞Look at the Items in the next columns, and make the calculation, and you see that dividing a county will DIVIDE THE EXPENSES almost in exact proportion.

Receipts and Expenditures

OF UNION COUNTY, by the Commissioners and Treasurer of said County, from the 1st day of Jan. 1854, to Jan. 1, 1855.

Table of State and County Taxes levied, Abatements, Exonerations, Commissions, Sums paid, and Balances due.

Districts and Collectors.	Amount Charged State.	Amount Charged County.	Ab't State.	Amount Received. State.	Amount Received. County.	Commissions. State.	Commissions. County.	Exonerations. State.	Exonerations. County.	Balance due State.	Balance due County.
Beaver—George Swartz†	$1144,91	595,54	27,50	810,00	300,00	67,24	29,77	20,91	20,32	219,46	245,45
West Beaver—Charles Krebbs†	646,08	357,90	11,50	322,50	200,00	32,33	16,89	20,46	10,62	200,00	119,29
Buffaloe—Daniel Bennert	1949,57	980,22	55,62	1008,00	483,00	97,46	49,01	4,85	5,85	188,44	442,36
East Buffaloe—Henry Mertz†	1106,88	564,84	41,21	1000,00	150,00	55,34	28,24	2,41	3,19	7,89	383,41
West Buffaloe—William Kuhl†	890,72	467,03	21,00	508,00	210,00	44,53	23,35	31,29	18,77	285,90	214,91
Center—Henry Musser†	[illegible]	225,95	7,40	106,00	110,00	21,16	11,29	2,58	2,13	226,15	102,53
Chapman—John Leach†	436,53	307,74	10,50	210,00	202,62	26,82	15,58	3,14	4,12	186,07	85,02
Franklin—Simon Snyder†	878,34	452,75	21,10	608,00	231,00	40,91	22,08	12,50	8,86	201,03	191,21
Hartley—John Diehl†	1449,57	757,53	28,27	925,00	288,68	72,47	37,87	22,64	14,21	400,59	421,27
Jackson—Michael Specht†	700,16	349,20	26,80	511,50	228,40	35,00	18,16	,21	2,21	132,05	104,83
Kelly—Isaac Baumgartner*	1218,57	606,56	46,20	1080,00	408,20	60,91	30,34	1,92	1,74	29,34	128,38
Lewisburg—Andrew Kennedy	1009,13	520,05	45,93	861,08	492,24	50,45	26,09	21,67	19,72		
Limestone—Daniel Grosscup†	782,58	398,40	22,46	578,00	165,00	39,11	19,92	,77	1,83	139,04	212,01
Middlecreek—Jacob Dunkelberger†	349,11	182,01	7,98	222,00	126,00	17,45	9,10			101,68	46,91
Mifflinburg—John Detwiler†	370,84	202,97	13,85	337,02	77,07	18,54	10,14	,62	2,25		113,51
New Berlin—Christian Winter†	435,25	206,02	18,03	394,74	106,24	21,76	10,30	,12	,44		89,04
Penns—George Row†	1709,12	892,20	14,01	1115,00	545,00	85,45	41,62	22,79	16,17	450,97	289,80
Perry—John Gelnett†	649,70	362,59	16,22	410,00	269,50	32,48	18,12			190,00	74,97
Selinsgrove—Jacob Gingrich†	623,54	329,69	15,75	425,00	110,50	31,07	16,48	8,65	4,03	142,47	198,68
Union—Jacob F Hummel†	516,92	274,18	12,86	392,25	113,63	25,84	13,70	,03	1,39	115,94	145,46
Washington—Henry Summers†	820,30	402,71	21,00	485,00	100,00	41,31	21,03		,08	279,06	250,40
White Deer—David Meckley†	928,34	480,31	26,25	585,00	223,00	46,41	24,01	7,07	7,09	263,61	226,21
TOTALS	$10,171,00	9902,11	536,32	13646,80	5235,58	957,94	494,09	194,36	144,32	3826,17	4087,42

Delinquent Collectors.

Year.	Districts and Collectors.	State.	County.
1851	Center—Jacob Reichly		19,58
	New Berlin—George Diehl		19,38
	Union—Wm M'Pherson	36,34	139,00
1852	Mifflinburg—Geo Dreisbach*		19,09
	Union—Geo Benninghoff†		4,29
	White Deer—Jacob Leiser	117,35	34,35
1853	Beaver—Philip Kinney†	297,35	343,69
	West Beaver—Solomon Romig Jr	201,39	3,28
	Buffaloe—James Irwin†	21,36	100,24
	W Buff—Wm Kuhl pr Reiff Hayes†	48,48	41,90
	Hartley—Wm Fisher†	434,70	229,60
	Middlecreek—Abram Hendricks*	7,30	3,96
	Perry—Peter Traup	93,45	101,62
	Union—Saml B Baum†	5,24	125,87
	White Deer—Joel Baker†	239,22	160,41
	Chapman—Simon B Strawser		22,31
	TOTALS	1547,18	1394,28

*Since paid in full. †Since paid in part.

ITEMS OF EXPENDITURES.

Auditors Pay for 1854.

Auditors for making County settlement for 1854 including clerk 37 50
J. Swineford for auditing accounts of Proth'y and Register & Recorders offices 4 50
—42 00

Assessors Pay.

Assessors for their services in 1854 233 63¼

Election Expenses.

Spring Election held March 17, 1854 254 98
General election held October 10, 1854 368 26

Attorney's Fees.

J. Casey for advice to County Auditors 4 00
C. Merrill his salary as Com'rs Attorney 35 00
W. Van Gezer Dep. At. Gen. fees Feb. T. 19 50
do do May " 27 00
do do Sep. " 37 00
do do Dec. " 38 00
—160 50

Scrubbing of Court House &c.

J W Ewing for scrubbing &c. 16 00

Prothonotary's Office.

S. Roush Proth'y his bill and fees for 1854 150 54
J H Cornelius for a copy of Pur. Digest 5 00
—155 54

Register's & Recorder's Office.

C Breyman recording marriages, deaths &c. 10 70
C Breyman for rec. bonds of H Solomon Treas. 4 10

Court Expenses.

Jurors pay and mileage for February Term 510 75
Do do May " 516 12
Do do September " 465 75
Do do December " 600 37
Court Cryers wages for February Term 20 00
Do do May " 20 00
Do do Sept. " 20 00
Do do Dec. " 26 00
—86 00

Tipstaves or Constables for attending Court.
February Term 30 00 September Term 32 50
May " 33 75 December " 38 75
—135 00

Constables mileage and making returns to
February Term 21 32 September Term 23 72
May " 21 32 December " 23 72
—90 08

Road Orders issued by Court.

To J A Ettinger and others during the year 164 00

Fox Scalps.

J Fetterolf &c. for Fox Scalps 165 50

State Costs.

Cost paid in cases of Commonwealth against the following persons, viz:

William Geistweit	1 78	Lorenzo Ungert	13 88
E Gemberling and Wm Geistweit	10 65	Benj. Stone	7 87
G W Kantz	32 38	John Johnson	2 48
S Speese and J Gim'l	14 01	Daniel Strauss	1 85
John Hoffman	11 70	Daniel Boyer	1 54
John G Fuss	36 43	P Daubert, G Daubert and J Bucher	9 67
John Smith	14 92	Anson Taylor	30 74
Peter Shankline	7 19	Dan Gundrum	3 00
D Dewire and others	16 04	T Burg and others	11 40
Patrick and Ellen Casey and others			55 44
			280 88

Road Damages.

J Gross M Gangler, damages for opening a road through their lands in Penns township 20 00
J Brown for do in Lewisburg Borough 110 00
J S Hachenberg do do Washington tp. 10 00
Peter Fetterolf do do Beaver tp. 10 00
Daniel Arnold do do Chapman tp. 15 00
Jacob Moyer do do Kelly tp. 15 00
—180 00

Building of new, and Repairing of old Bridges.

Jacob Straub for materials and work done on bridge over Middlecreek near P Kantz's in Washington township, as Repairs. 2 50
Samuel Ewing, Esq., 2d, 3d, and 4th payment for building the new bridge across Buffalo creek at Lewisburg. 1236 75
Robert P. Cornelius for iron, nails, and work done at the New Berlin Bridge 5 25
Israel Hoffman for 124 feet planks, hauling, and work done at the New Berlin bridge. 3 92
Sem Shoch filling up Wingwalls at the same 75
John M. Bender for hauling ground and work done at the New Berlin bridge 5 30
Samuel Ewing for a Roof over the Bridge across Buffalo creek at Lewisburg per second Contract. 348 50
Peter Kerlin hauling planks and repairing at the bridge across Penns creek near B. Longs in Penns township. 3 00
Merritt Chappel for filling up the road and Wingwall at the bridge at Lewisburg across Buffalo creek 2. 3 and last payment 284 61
Shumacher & Maus last payment for masoning at the above bridge. 363 50
Jacob Couldren for repairs at the bridge near Berlin iron works in Hartley township 8 18
H. W. Snyder, for 8879 feet 4 inch planks at $14 a 1000, likewise other materials and work done at the Penns creek bridge at Selinsgrove from the 7th of January, 1853 to the 1st of August, 1854 149 94
App & Son for 1549 feet oak planks at $25 the 1000, and hauling the same for the bridge near B. Longs in Penns township 39 72
J. H. App 1650 feet oak plants at 25 dol. per 1000 feet hauling and laying the same at the same bridge 43 04
Joseph Mabus finding old iron in the ruins of the Lewisburg bridge burnt down 1 50
Henry Wetzel for planks filling in and repairing the bridge near his house in Middlecreek township. 1 75
S. L. Beck for ground, gravel &c., taken from his Lots for the filling up of the Wingwall and road at the Bufalo bridge at Lewisburg—(partly) Damage reported by the Appraisers appointed for the purpose to report as to property, bridge and road 225 48
Thomas Hayes Agent for Mrs. Seiler, do. do. Damage in full, as reported by Appraisers 300 00
Samuel Ewing 1. and 2. payment for the new bridge across little Buffalo creek near Philip Gemberling's in Kelly township 416 66
—3460 05

Sheriff's Fees.

John Kessler, Sheriff, Costs to arrest Wm. Geistwett and Elijah Gemberling, mileage, &c., for bringing them from Philad. to the Union County prison 79 62
John Kessler, Sheriff his salary to deliver Wm. Geistweit to the Eastern Penitentiary 91 75
John Kessler, Sheriff, his salary to board prisoners, draw and give notice to Jurors for February and May Courts, Wood and Coal 194 65
John Kessler, Sheriff, his salary to deliver Peter Shenklein to the Eastern Penitentiary 91 00
John Kessler, Sheriff, his salary to draw and summons Jurors for Sept. and Dec. Courts, to board prisoners, wood &c. 127 02
—584 04

Prison Expenses.

Joseph Shaffer to hobble prisoners at different times 6 50
Henry Berge, to five cord of wood for prison 10 00
David Mauck board, skantling, planks and repairs at the prison stables 2 33
Elias Spangler hauling 2 ton of coal from the river 2 50
M. Kleckner his bill for six cord of wood and merchandise for prison 10 65
Josiah Swinehart a load of pine wood 1 75
—33 73

Public Buildings.

H. E. Baus work done to repair the prison stables and fixing Glas into Courthouse windows 4 98
J. W. Ewing to repair Courthous pump 75
do do do public privy 25
George Rutter glas and work at Courth. windows 56
John Mowzer sen. to repair prison wall 10
Jacob Mauck, 2 ton of coal and hauling 9 00
H. E. Baus repairs at Public buildings 2 88
David Kuhney for making a new pavement at the east end of Courthous lot per contract 45 00
Kuhney & Steinruck repairing old pavement 4 94
Georg Leitner 2 ton of coal and hauling 8 60
M. Kleckner broom, candles &c. 4 31
Roshong & Antes glas putty candles &c. 3 44
Edward Wilson do do 3 16
Benj. Shall to clean Inkstands 50
—165 25

Coroners Inquests.

J. A. Mertz, Esq., holding an inquest over the dead body of Samuel Zellers in Lewisburg the 5. June 1854. 11 42
Robert Candor, Esq., do do over Wm. Swartz of W. Deer township the 22. Dec. 1854 11 20
—22 62

Printing.

Merrill & Smith, english printing 120 00
John M. Baum do 30 00
O. N. Worden 10 00
F. Smith, german 80 00
Israel Gutelius do 20 00
—260 00

Interests.

Wm. Cameron interest on orders 158 and 159 ordered July 8 to September 18. 5 28
Shumacher & Maus do on order 160 for 2 month and 12 days 1 80
Lewisburg Savings Institution on order Nro. 171 for 3 month and 3 days on $233 3 61
Do do 193 for 3 m. and 3 d. on $310 4 71
—15 4

Eastern Penitentiary.

John Bacon Treasurer of the eastern Penitentiary per H. Donnell, Esq. to board &c. for Edward McGinsey in Penitentiary 9 79

Commissioners Office.

Simon K Herrold late Commissioner 150 00
Adam Sheckler Commissioner 132 50
Sem Leitzel do 119 75
John D. Romig do 30 00
A. J. Peters salary as Commissioners clerk 250 00
J. Swineford, Esq., to swear Sheriff and Commissioners to select and draw Jurors. 37
John H. Cornelius one ream large c. p. 7 00
Do do for paper, ink, envelopes, sand boxes, quills, pens, black sand &c. 6 26
C. Burhmiller for binding Assessments 2 00
E. Wilson merchandise for office 2 50
R. Swineford paper for assessments 7 50
Do do for steel pens &c. 93
M. Kleckner merchandise 1 56
—682 83

Miscellaneous

Jacob Mauck late Treasurer for $5 counterfeit bill allowed by Commissioners to G. Dreisbach for Jury wages at Sept. term 1851 5 00
P. Gross, Esq., for qualifying Com'rs to statement transm'd to Revenue Com'rs 37
Jacob Mauck late Treasurer for fees on Mill Licenses and also Licenses allowed by Aud. 19 50
D. H. Kelly costs in case of Jacob Mauck late Treasurer, for the use of Com'th vs D. & W. Kelly for Mill License 1 00
J. Swineford Esq., costs in case of Jac. Mauck late Treasurer for use of Com'th vs John A. Vanvalzah 2 14
John Leitzel road tax entered against J. Flinn and collected by county 11 24
J. Wilt witness fees in case of I. Gutelius vs Union county before S. Roush Esq., in 1853 1 16
T. Hayes for collecting iron &c. at old or burnt bridge ac. Buff. creek at Lewisburg 1 40
H. K. Kitter rec'r of Lyc. Mut. Ins. Co. assess't No 10 for insurance of public buildings 12 00
H. K. Kitter agent of the Lyc. Mut. Ins. Com. for insurance of Bridge ac. Buf. creek Lew. 14 99
R. E. Wright for 5 copies of elect. Digest 5 75
H. Solomon Treas'r for interest on State money paid out for the use of county 8 00
H D Maize P M Postage for 1854 1 13
—72 69

Total orders issued on the Treasurer for 1854 9793 66

We the undersigned, Commissioners of the county of Union, hereby submit the foregoing account of the Receipts and Expenditures of the said county, for the year 1854 as correct and true. Given under our hands at the Commissioners office in the Borough of New Berlin, the second day of January, A. D. 1855.

ADAM SHECKLER,
SEM LEITZEL,
JOHN D. ROMIG,
Commissioners.

Attest, A. J. Peters clerk.

Henry Solomon, Treasurer.

1854 Dr.

Cash received of Jacob Mauck, late Treasurer, a balance in favor of county at last settlement 717 24
To cash received of delinquent collectors, viz:
For the year 1851 198 67
do do 1852 391 40
do do 1853 2250 34
—2840 41
To cash received of collectors for 1854 5235 58
Cash rec'd of J. Harrison for one old stove 50
" rec'd of C. Merrill Esq. costs and expenses for keeping J. Butcher in county prison 74 08
Cash of H. W. Snyder redemption money on property of George Gundrum sold at the late Treas's sale 7 65
Cash of Joseph Casey redemption money on two lots sold at Treas's sale as property of Geo. Gundrum 90
Cash rec'd of W. Van Gezer office rent 9 00
Cash rec'd of S K Herrold for old plank sold at Longs bridge above Selinsgrove 2 32
Cash of Colsher & Moyer redemption money on 2 lots sold at late Treas'sale as prop'ty of G. Gundrum 1 33
Cash of J Kessler fines and jury fees 26 00
Cash of S. Roush Proth'y fines and jury fees 95 00
Cash of M Kleckner for grass &c. in p. l. 7 81
Cash received of various persons taxes entered on seated and unseated lands 53 64
Balance due Treasurer Jan. 1, 1855 828 96
9898 07

Contra Cr.

By amount of orders issued by Com'rs during the year 1854 and paid 9793 66
do of commission of 7½ per cent. on $353 dol. 88 c. paid to Treas'r during 1854 allow. assumption 104 41
9898 07

1855, January 1. Balance due county by collectors of 1853 and previous years 1394 28
Balance due county by collectors of 1854 4087 42
5481 70
Balance due Treasurer January 1, 1855 826 96
Balance due county January 1, 1855 4654 74

We, the undersigned, Auditors of the county of Union, having carefully examined and audited the foregoing accounts of the Commissioners and Treasurer of said county, do find and report the said account of Receipts and Expenditures and Treasurers account for the year 1854 true and correct as stated. In witness whereof, we, the said Auditors, have hereunto set our hands, at the Commissioners office, in the Borough of New Berlin this third day of January, A.D. 1855.

H. W. SNYDER,
LAIRD HOWARD,
JOHN SHRACK,
Auditors.

The $50,000 Bond...Binding!

NEW BERLIN, Sept. 21, 1854.

To HON. JAMES MARSHALL.

Yours of the 20th inst., requesting our opinion in relation to a certain bond signed by William Cameron, Esq., and others to the Hon. Abraham S. Wilson, Esq., in the sum of fifty thousand dollars, on condition, that, "in case the county of Union should be divided at the next session of the Legislature, and the majority of the qualified voters should decide by ballot, that the county buildings for the northern part (to be called Union County) should be located in the Borough of Lewisburg," the obligors "shall erect or cause to be erected and constructed all necessary County buildings, and procure the grounds necessary on which they are to be erected, without taxation to the County; the buildings are to be completed within eighteen months after the location is determined as aforesaid, and not to be inferior to those recently erected at Bloomsburg in the County of Columbia, and also to be subject to the approval to the Court and Commissioners of the County in which such buildings are to be erected" &c. You inquire whether this Bond is valid and binding and capable of being enforced against the obligors, if the events therein specified should happen? We have examined the Bond, and are clearly of opinion that the same is valid and binding, and that, if the County should be divided by the Legislature, and the Seat of Justice be located at Lewisburg, as contemplated in the Condition of the Bond, and the County of Union should necessarily incur any expense in the purchase of grounds or in the construction and erection thereon of the necessary County Buildings, equal in character to those of Bloomsburg, that to the extent of such expense not exceeding Fifty Thousand Dollars the Bond can be enforced, in the name of Abraham S. Wilson, for the use of the County, against all the persons who executed the same.

JOSHUA W. COMLY.
J. W. MAYNARD,
JOS. CASEY.