

B. F. SCHWEIER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Republican State Ticket.

SUPREME JUDGE, HENRY GREEN, OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.

ADJUTANT GENERAL, JOHN A. LEMON, OF BLAIR COUNTY.

Last week the Democrat and Register published the following:

"Another Republican Board of Commissioners has been formed in Huntington county, on the 17th of March, 1879, 1878, 1877, 1876, 1875, 1874, 1873, 1872, 1871, 1870, 1869, 1868, 1867, 1866, 1865, 1864, 1863, 1862, 1861, 1860, 1859, 1858, 1857, 1856, 1855, 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851, 1850, 1849, 1848, 1847, 1846, 1845, 1844, 1843, 1842, 1841, 1840, 1839, 1838, 1837, 1836, 1835, 1834, 1833, 1832, 1831, 1830, 1829, 1828, 1827, 1826, 1825, 1824, 1823, 1822, 1821, 1820, 1819, 1818, 1817, 1816, 1815, 1814, 1813, 1812, 1811, 1810, 1809, 1808, 1807, 1806, 1805, 1804, 1803, 1802, 1801, 1800, 1799, 1798, 1797, 1796, 1795, 1794, 1793, 1792, 1791, 1790, 1789, 1788, 1787, 1786, 1785, 1784, 1783, 1782, 1781, 1780, 1779, 1778, 1777, 1776, 1775, 1774, 1773, 1772, 1771, 1770, 1769, 1768, 1767, 1766, 1765, 1764, 1763, 1762, 1761, 1760, 1759, 1758, 1757, 1756, 1755, 1754, 1753, 1752, 1751, 1750, 1749, 1748, 1747, 1746, 1745, 1744, 1743, 1742, 1741, 1740, 1739, 1738, 1737, 1736, 1735, 1734, 1733, 1732, 1731, 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Just why the Democrat and Register referred the action of the Huntington County Commissioners to the editor of the Junata Sentinel and Republican does not appear.

If it is intended to justify the Commissioners of Juniata county for paying the premiums on scalps, then it is right in one sense, and in another sense it is wrong.

If it is intended to show that a general law exists for the payment of premiums on scalps, and that in other counties than in Juniata large sums are paid for such premiums—that is what the Democrat and Register intends, then it is right; then it is also wrong, for its justification condemns the course that it put on the Commissioners of this county for paying for scalps.

Either horn will put the Democrat and Register where it does not wish to be put.

If it is intended to tell the editor of the Sentinel and Republican that the present Board of Commissioners stands indifferently paying scalp premiums, then it condemns every Board of Commissioners in the past many years, for the Democratic Commissioners of the past have paid out thousands of dollars for premiums on scalps.

If it is intended to condemn the editor of the Sentinel and Republican, for publishing the first time that the fact was ever published, that the Commissioners pay only for scalps that come up from the offices of the Justices of the Peace, regularly certified to, we must stand condemned, for the Sentinel and Republican is the paper that published that fact to the citizens of Juniata county, and the probability is that it had not done so, the fact would yet remain unpublished.

The Democrat and Register should have done so long ago, and lifted the abuse that was laid at the door of the Commissioners' office in the past for paying for scalps.

When the editor of the Sentinel and Republican was told, at the beginning of the year, by one of the Board of Commissioners—Mr. Wilson—that the bill for scalps was large, but that the Commissioners could not go back of the sworn certificates from the offices of the Justices of the Peace, we asked to see the law.

Mr. Wilson, the present clerk to the board, made diligent search time and again for the law, but because of the fact that it is not properly indexed in the digests he failed to find it.

Other parties to whom he applied, failed to find it; but finally the desired information came from Squire Lukens, of Thompstonville. It was Squire Lukens, of Thompstonville, who furnished the information to Mr. Wilson that led to the publication in the Sentinel and Republican of the fact that the Commissioners cannot help in paying for scalps when they are properly certified to from the office of the Justice, where the hunter must appear with the scalps.

It is a most enviable record for the present Board to make, to show to their constituents that they have clean hands, and that if a wrong and an outrage is perpetrated, that it is done down in the offices of the Justices, with the hunter as the chief manipulator of scalps, hides, and skins.

This is a piece of revelation that the Democrat and Register should have made for the people of the county, but it seems that it was reserved for the Republican Board of Commissioners to do in the first year of their management.

Mr. McWilliams is also pleased that the censure that for years has been hurled at the Commissioners' office for the scalp business has at last been applied.

We have then at the bottom of this most agreeable revelation of fact, the Republican Commissioners, the editor of the Sentinel and Republican, the Clerk to the Commissioners, and Squire Lukens, of Thompstonville; and while the Republicans may well be congratulated over the achievement of the work of the first year of their Commissioners, the Democracy should return their thanks to the present Board of Commissioners for getting down to the bottom facts in the scalp business, and thereby make known to the public the fact that the crookedness lies not in the Commissioners' office, but in the lower court, in the office of the Justice and with the hunter. The Republicans have done that in the first year of their administration. Why did not the Democrat and Register shield its Commissioners years ago, by telling the plain facts? If the present Board keeps on at the present rate of unearthing facts, and by their record even pull out old Democratic Commissioners from ugly sloughs where they were allowed to flounder as best they could, it will not be a matter of surprise if three-fourths of the Democratic party turn around and vote the Republican ticket at the next election for county officers.

If the Republican Board of Commissioners in one year have discovered that there is something wrong with the manner of manipulation of the scalp business in the lower court, something that the Democracy failed to see during the period of the rule of thirty years, it is something that the Republicans particularly and the tax-payers generally should be well satisfied with, and it should convince them that it is to their interest to perpetuate the rule of the Democrats.

In past days, in the days of the grandfathers, foxes and other predatory animals were numerous, and quite destructive to poultry and young pigs and cattle, hence the

passage of a law that provided for the payment of a premium by the several counties for fox, wolf, mink and other skins. The law was passed in 1830. With a few changes the law has remained on the books till to-day, and to day the man who kills a fox is honestly entitled to the premium. No man who kills a fox need be ashamed to claim the premium, for it is by his law, by the usages of the people who have lived before him during the period of seventy years. But it is the abuse that has crept in and corrupted the hunters, and made the Justice's office a market place for scalps.

After this there will be no more holding of Commissioners on the scalp question, and the attention will be directed where it belongs, down to the office of the Justice, and the hunter who produces the scalps. If the law is no longer of use, the next Legislature may be petitioned to repeal it.