

FOR RECORDER AND AUDITOR.

No candidate on either ticket has been so shamefully and remorselessly slandered as William H. Watt, the Democratic nominee for Recorder and Auditor of Alturas county. And this has been done in the most despicable way imaginable, none of his accusers daring to come out openly to prefer their charges, but sneaking about in back alleys and other out-of-the-way places, and uttering them under the sacred seal of confidential communications.

It has been charged against Mr. Watt that in Lawrence county, Dakota, while acting as Deputy Recorder of Deeds, a few years ago, he was charged with malfeasance in office, and indicted; while the fact is that although some of the county officials—colleagues of Mr. Watt—were indicted, the most searching investigation failed to discover anything "crooked" about his work. The result of that investigation was therefore as emphatic a testimonial to Mr. Watt's worth and faithfulness as his most devoted partisan or most exacting critic could have desired.

But the above are mere allegations, it may be urged, and totally unsupported. Is this true? Luckily for Mr. Watt, his record does not rest upon unsupported assertions, of interested parties. Leading citizens in his former place of residence have vied with each other in testifying to his ability and unimpeachable integrity, and from the voluminous quantity of such testimony at hand (all of which the TIMES has examined critically) we are permitted to publish the following. Read what is said of him by those who know him best:

DEADWOOD, D. T., Jan. 1, 1881.  
To Whom it May Concern:

This is to certify that the bearer of this, Mr. William H. Watt, has been in my employ in the office of Register of Deeds and County Clerk of Lawrence county, D. T., during the past three years—most of which time he has acted as my deputy—and it affords me pleasure to recommend him as being a faithful, trustworthy and competent man, thoroughly acquainted with all the details of a Recorder's office, whilst his business qualifications would fit him for almost any position.

Respectfully,  
C. H. MCKINNIS,  
Register of Deeds and Ex-Officio County Clerk.

I fully indorse the above recommendation.  
JOHN W. ALLEN,  
Chairman of Board of County Commissioners, Lawrence Co., D. T.

I fully indorse the above.  
J. W. GARLAND,  
County Commissioner.

The above, it will be observed, is from a gentleman in whose employ Mr. Watt was for THREE YEARS, and is endorsed by the County Commissioners. According to this testimony Mr. Watt is fit for ANY POSITION, and is a faithful, trustworthy and competent man. This testimony was given to Mr. Watt on the first of January, 1881, when, his term of office having expired, he was about to leave to go none knew where.

But, it may be urged, these persons were political adherents of Mr. Watt, and the testimony was given out of pure friendship. The question is not, "what did Mr. Watt's co-officials think of him?" but, "what did his successors think of him, after they had got to all his books and accounts, and had therefore had every opportunity of discovering any possible crookedness?" Here again, we are ready for Mr. Watt's enemies, for we are in possession of recommendations equally favorable to Mr. Watt, from the Register of Deeds and County Clerk and from the Treasurer who succeeded Mr. Watt—who had defeated his political associates, and who would therefore have been too glad to be able to pick some flaw, at least, in his records and accounts:

DEADWOOD, D. T., May 16, 1881.  
To Whom it May Concern:

I am well acquainted with the bearer of this, Mr. Wm. H. Watt, and know him to be perfectly reliable and competent in any position he may occupy, and it affords me pleasure to endorse him to any with whom he may be associated.

JOSEPH S. TRACY,  
Register of Deeds and Ex-Officio County Clerk.

DEADWOOD, May 16, 1881.  
To Whom it May Concern:

As an employee of the First National Bank of Deadwood, D. T., for the last three years, I have personally known W. H. Watt, as Deputy of

C. H. McKinnis, Register of Deeds and Ex-Officio County Clerk, and I take pleasure in recommending him as a capable and efficient officer and accountant, and an upright and honorable gentleman.

I do not hesitate to recommend him to public favor.

W. M. BAIRD,  
County Treasurer.

Let the reader make note of the date of the above, to wit: May 16, 1881—nearly five months after Mr. Watt's books and accounts had come into their possession. If there had been anything wrong about them, does anyone suppose that it would not have been found out by that time?

But how did Mr. Watt stand with other classes of the community? Let us see. Here is a letter from the cashier of the Merchants' National Bank, of Deadwood—a gentleman whose word is accepted as good as his bond, in all the money markets and mining centers in the United States. Here is what Mr. Mund wrote:

DEADWOOD, D. T., May 16, 1881.—  
To whom it may concern:

The bearer of this, Mr. W. H. Watt, is personally known to me, and I cheerfully testify to his good character and business qualifications. He has been for a long time connected with our Recorder's office—a part of the time as Deputy, and in charge—and he has always been considered a first class man in that as well as any other position he has held.

His signature, for purposes of identification, will be found below.

Yours Truly,  
H. H. MUND, Cashier.

W. H. WATT.

How about the attorneys? They had more to do with Mr. Watt, his records and accounts, than any other class of the community. What do they say? Here is what B. G. Caulfield, a gentleman who stands on the very top rung of the ladder in his profession, wrote of Mr. Watt:

DEADWOOD, D. T., May 16, 1881.  
To Whom it May Concern:

As a practicing attorney at the Deadwood bar, I have known Wm. H. Watt as the deputy of Charles McKinnis in the office of Register of Deeds of Lawrence county, D. T. He is regarded, by this whole community, as a most competent officer, and I take pleasure in recommending him in the HIGHEST POSSIBLE MANNER, as a man of integrity and ability in ANY POSITION!!!

The above are all properly authenticated, and can be seen at this office by any voter who wishes to—until after election, when we shall hand them to Recorder Watt to keep carefully until he can add those which he will receive from this vicinity at the expiration of his term of office in 1885.

They are all written on letter-heads bearing the imprint of the office, in the subscribers' own handwriting, and bear official seals.  
WHAT THE PRESS SAYS:  
But the above, it may be urged, were given privately. They might not have been given if it had been known that they would meet the eye of the public. Even this objection can be met, however, for the Black Hills press has also borne testimony to Mr. Watt's fitness for the office. Read the following from the Black Hills Daily Times of Sept. 17, 1882:

W. H. Watt, formerly deputy register of deeds, under C. H. McKinnis, received the Democratic nomination for Register of Alturas county, Idaho, on the seventh instant. Billy's many friends here unite in wishing him all the success possible in the race for office, and hope that he will be elected by a handsome majority. Billy is competent and efficient, but has one fault; he is a Democrat.

The Times is a Republican paper. How about the Democratic press? Read from the Daily Pioneer of the 17th of September, 1882—the date upon which the above appeared in the Times. Here is what the Pioneer said:

At the Democratic convention of Alturas county, Idaho, W. H. Watt was nominated by an overwhelming majority for Auditor and Recorder. In that county a nomination is equivalent to an election. Every one in Deadwood remembers Billy with feelings of kindness, and will be pleased to hear that he has been successful. That he will make a most excellent official there can be no doubt, as he is thoroughly conversant with the details of the business, having served as Deputy Recorder while here in Deadwood with credit to himself and satisfaction to the people.

The Pioneer is the leading newspaper in Dakota Territory. Mr. Watt's case may rest here today. We are not through with him

or his opponents, however, and will refer to them again at a very early day. We will do this, not because Mr. Watt's cause will require it—for we consider his election a foregone conclusion—but because the voters of Alturas county should be thoroughly informed of the character of the men seeking public trusts, that they may select those most worthy of their confidence.

A CORRECTION.

Gil Bixby requests the statement that while on the Board of County Commissioners he refused an appropriation to put the road between Ketchum and Gimlet in good order, corrected. The appropriation referred to was refused by the Board over a year before Mr. Bixby became a member of it. He therefore had nothing to do with it. The article complained of was copied from the Vienna Reporter. We hope that Mr. Bixby will be defeated, but we do not propose to assist to defeat him by lying about him.

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- One dozen best linen collars..... 1.50
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- A large assortment of knives, from 25 cents to..... 1.00
- Good razors..... 12.50
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- Spices, yeast powders, etc..... .25
- Six lead pencils..... .25
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- Compasses, 25 cents to..... .50
- Combs, 12 1/2 cents to..... .50
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- Two quart bottles of Sherry wine..... 1.00
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NOTARY PUBLIC AND CONVEYANCER,  
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Hot and Cold Lunches, at all hours, from 25 cents upwards. o12 RUBIN MENAS.

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HAILEY COUNCIL No. 2, O. C. F.

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Music by the Hailey Quadrille Band.

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