

SAFFORD RATTLER.

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO REMOVING THE COUNTY SEAT TO SAFFORD

VOL. I.

SAFFORD, ARIZONA, SEPTEMBER 9, 1896.

NO. 3.

PROFESSIONAL.

Dr. C. L. Wish,

Physician and Surgeon.

SAFF RD. ARIZONA.

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Real Estate Agents.

SAFFORD, ARIZONA.

Dr. M. E. Brenner,

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SAFFORD, ARIZONA.

J. M. McCollum,

Attorney at Law.

SAFFORD, ARIZONA. Practices in U. S. and Territorial Courts, and before the United States Land Office.

John McGowan,

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SOLOMONVILLE GIVES US A GOOD REASON.

One of the best arguments in favor of the county seat removal was expressed by a Solomonville business man while in Safford on Saturday last. In defending the present county seat he said:

"Of course I will fight the proposition, everything I have on earth is there and all we have to depend upon is the county seat."

He then went on to say that Safford people might just as well hold him up on the street and take everything he had as to take the county seat away from its present location.

The gentleman seems to think that Safford alone is interested in this matter. He fails to realize that the whole county is interested, and, taxpayers of Graham county, just consider for a few moments the above defence of our present county seat. One of her foremost citizens urges as a reason for leaving the county seat there that the town depends on the county seat for a living, that she cannot exist without it, that it is simply taking the bread out of their mouths to take the county seat away from them.

If such is the case is it not time to change?

Is it necessary for Graham county to support Solomonville?

Is it right that she should do so?

NO! A thousand times NO!

She has been supported by the county in the past, and that support has cost the county thousands of dollars, but now it is time to call a halt. It is time that we are cutting off our pensioners. Solomonville is not deserving of a pension from the county. She has never done anything to merit it. On the contrary it is an open fact that she has robbed the county of thousands and thousands of dollars and the robbery has not ceased yet by any means. She has some as good citizens as are to be found anywhere in the Territory. But they cannot deny the facts as stat-

ed above.

Safford always has and always will support herself, and we believe it economy for the court house to be located in a town which does not draw its entire support from the county.

It is a shame that a town must be allowed to hold our county seat which cannot support itself. It is a terrible draw-back to the county and creates a drain on the taxes which cannot be stopped, that in a measure accounts for our high taxes, our terrible debt, with nothing to show for it and the very uninviting surroundings at the county seat, and it explains the deficit in the Sheriff's office at this time.

Taxpayers, think of this. Are you going to vote to keep up Solomonville any longer, or are you going to make her take care of herself.

10 MORE REASONS FOR MOVING THE COUNTY SEAT TO SAFFORD.

1st. Because Safford is on the railroad.

2nd. It is and ever will be the leading business place of the county.

3rd. It will be a town of magnificent homes.

4th. It does not depend for existence on the county seat.

5th. It offers the best school facilities.

6th. It offers better hotel facilities.

7th. It offers a pleasant and agreeable two year's home for county officials.

8th. Nine-tenths of the people demand it.

9th. It will induce capital to be invested in our county.

10th. - It is a cosmopolitan town.

Mr. James Morris and Judge McCollum of this place returned from a trip to Clifton and Morenci last week. Mr. Morris reports that he only met two men who were opposed to the county seat removal, and one of them afterwards signed the petition to the Board of Supervisors. The county seat is coming sure.

INTOLERANCE AND BIGOTRY.

The *Bulletin* is in an awful state over what it chooses to call the intolerance and bigotry of our executive committee:

It says: "Qualification, honesty, political affiliation shall not count for anything."

The voters of Safford assume that any and all candidates named shall possess "qualification and honesty." We draw the line at political affiliation—we have out lived that—we are not hide-bound.

Every voter in Graham county to-day knows that the main issue before us is whether we are to continue to bow allegiance to the greedy and contaminating influences of the all-powerful merchant, money lender, professional bond giver, contemptible jury fixer, unlawful water-usurper, and who when drunk brags about "his court house and his county seat."

Vote to have the county seat remain in Solomonville and make worse the present deplorable and disgraceful conditions which confront you to-day, or vote for Safford and get out from under one man power. Be a free man, or forever acknowledge that not only this strip of land called Graham county, belongs to this Christ-killer, but also that he is entitled to a mortgage on the air we breathe and the water we drink. Take your choice but bear in mind the plan we submit will in 5 years pull this county out of debt and build up our industries. If this is bigotry and intolerance make the most of it, Mr. Kelly.

If one is to judge the character of Solomonville's people by her streets, he must come to the conclusion that she has a pretty crooked set of people, for we never saw such crooked streets in any place which pretended to be anything of a town.

We repeat that the taxable wealth of Graham county will be increased from Safford alone \$200,000 the first year after the county seat is in Safford.