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PROSPECTUS

THE VINTON RECORD,

A WEEKLY newspaper published every Thursday morning, at

McArthur, Vinton County, Ohio.

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The Vinton Record.

VOL. 1.

M'ARTHUR, VINTON COUNTY, OHIO, JANUARY 11, 1866.

NO. 2.

Extracts from Governor Anderson's Message.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

The Constitution of the State of Ohio imposes upon the Governor the duty of communicating at every session, by message, to the General Assembly, the condition of the State, and to recommend such measures as he shall deem expedient. The sad calamity which deprived our State of the great abilities, and the industrious and energetic services of the late Governor, and devolved the duties of this office upon me, and among other consequent obligations, and in his instance also, develop and exemplify the extent of that great public loss. At my best I could but poorly supply the want of his power and activities. While in the circumstances amid which I have entered upon these grave responsibilities, no one could well be expected to completely perform this task. An exercise of these functions so limited in its time, a starting with the subordinate offices and their proceedings so partial and incomplete, could scarcely attain, in the aptest mind, to that maturity of observation and experience which is quite essential to useful results in either branch of this constitutional injunction. As the case stands, however, I now address myself to its performance.

The financial condition of the State seems as satisfactory as could be wished at any rate expected, under that enormous and necessary burden of taxation which the recent war of treason, with its incidents, has imposed upon our people.

Comparing the statements of the Auditor of State for the last and the current years, we find: The total receipts from all sources during the fiscal year of 1865 to have been \$13,190,910 81, against those of 1864 \$8,679,968 82, and the total disbursements for the same 12,431,824 89, against those of 1864 6,579,006 15, leaving a balance to credit of all funds of 750,885 92, against that of 1864 2,000,960 67.

It thus appears that with an increase of the receipts of the sum of \$4,510,943 99 (or more than 50 per centum), our expenditures have so swollen as to leave a corresponding balance, less than that of the former year by the sum of \$1,244,874 75.

Why this result has occurred will be explained, as far as may be, in the sequel.

The account of the receipts and disbursements for the State Government proper, (called the General Revenue Account) for this year, shows the following results:

Balance upon November 15, 1864, \$397,622 86, against that of 1863, \$122,786 01. Amount collected from taxes 891,085 63, against that of last year 924,897 56. Amount collected from other sources \$94,719 48, against that of last year 191,678 70. Total of receipts (including balance) for 1865, 2,234,427 97, against that of 1864, 1,450,663 17. Disbursements for civil purposes in 1865, 1,888,131 96, against those of 1864, 824,152 27. Ditto for military fund in 1865, 192,015 53, against those of 1864, 228,880 04. Total disbursements in General Revenue account 2,079,147 53, against those of 1864, 1,053,030 31. The balance in the Treasury, November 15, 1865, 183,280 42, against that of 1864, 397,622 86.

We thus find a like result of increased expenditures and a diminished balance in this branch also of the State's finances. Like explanations will be duly attempted.

Following up this comparison of these two years, we find:

An excess of tax collections in 1865 over 1864 of 867,188 07, against a like excess of 1864 over 1863 of 849,034 31. An excess of receipts from all other sources of 702,821 92, against a like excess of 1864 over 1863 of 2,873 99. Total excess in receipts of 1865 over 1864 of 869,060 99, against a total in these excesses of 1864 over 1863 of 12,908 35. An excess of expenditures in 1865 over 1864 of 81,063 97, against a like excess of 1864 over 1863 of 232,746 15. A reduction in the balance in Treasury of 1865 from 1864, 824,324 44, against a like reduction in 1864 from 1863 of 26,164 05. A reduction of transfer to Military Fund in 1865 from 1864 of 36,872 45, against a like reduction in 1864 from 1863 of 9,801 74.

With such an increase of our revenues, and with such a diminution of our military expenditures, it becomes an indispensable duty for the General Assembly to demand, and for the Executive to give, an explanation of this extraordinary, perhaps unexpected, comparative deficit in these annual balances.

To this end, it is the better course to fix, as well as we can, by a partial analysis of the leading items in the various accounts, the instances of these increases of expenditures. After settling these facts of actual results, we should, as far as practicable and profitable, investigate their explanatory reasons or excuses.

Accordingly, we find excess of expenditure in the General Revenue Account for 1865 over those of 1864, in the following items and sums, viz:

Direct taxes paid to United States Government in 1865, \$706,896 94. Benevolent Institutions (current expense, improvements, new buildings, etc.) for 1865, 506,691 90. Benevolent Institutions (current expenses, improvements, new buildings, etc.) for 1864, 281,882 07. Showing an excess in 1865 of \$224,719 83. Printing, binding, stationery, etc. in 1865, 175,408 44. Printing, binding, stationery, etc. for 1864, 65,151 85. Showing an excess in 1865 of \$110,256 59. Sundry items of State and military expenditures in 1865, 89,090 67. Sundry items of State and military expenditures in 1864, 26,703 65. Showing an excess in 1865 of \$62,387 02. Transportation (not really a State expense) in 1865, 92,127 45. Transportation (not really a State expense) in 1864, 75,221 21. Showing an excess in 1865 of \$16,906 24. Governor's Extraordinary Contingent

Fund in 1865, 89,090 67. Governor's Extraordinary Contingent Fund in 1864, 67,312 53.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$13,357 33. Ohio Penitentiary, including costs of prosecution, transportation of prisoners, etc. in 1865, 138,712 09. Ohio Penitentiary, including costs of prosecution, transportation of prisoners, etc. in 1864, 126,509 66.

Showing an excess of \$12,202 43. Judiciary (salaries of) in 1865, 80,481 09. Judiciary (salaries of) in 1864, 68,885 83. Showing an excess in 1865 of 11,595 26. Legislation (cost of) in 1865, 32,872 64. Legislation (cost of) in 1864, 45,841 35.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$7,031 29. Clerks in State Department in 1865, 26,803 09. Clerks in State Department in 1864, 29,257 98.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$9,630 01. Fuel, gas, heating and care of State House, 1865, 19,989 19. Fuel, gas, heating and care of State House 1864, 13,513 50.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$6,166 06. Per diem and expenses of Pay Agents in 1865, 12,500 29. Per diem and expenses of Pay Agents in 1864, 5,842 23.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$3,036 91. Bureau of Soldiers' Claims in 1865, 4,760 69. Salaries of Military Claim agents in 1865, 14,775 17. Salaries of Military Claim agents in 1864, 10,325 13.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$6,450 04. Clerks in the Adjutant General's office in 1865, 10,525 23. Clerks in the Adjutant General's office in 1864, 7,928 44.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$2,506 79. Contingent fund of State officers in 1865, 6,070 17. Contingent fund of State officers in 1864, 4,698 90.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$1,371 48. Salaries of Governor's staff in 1865, 7,294 68. Salaries of Governor's staff in 1864, 6,745 09.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$549 59. Salaries of State officers in 1865, 15,021 17. Salaries of State officers in 1864, 14,065 52.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$415 92. Governor's civil contingent fund in 1865, 4,108 38. Governor's civil contingent fund in 1864, 3,775 04.

Showing an excess in 1865 of \$333 54. Total excesses in General Revenue expenditures 1,259,409 17.

To resolve, again, this general result, by yet more special particularization, we discover the places of these increased expenditures (not to repeat the large sum of taxes to the General Government, nor to take note of the smaller sums), to lie as follows, viz:

DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM. Its expenditures (current) in 1865 were \$28,764 56. Its expenditures (current) in 1864 were 26,218 11.

Showing an excess of \$2,546 45. The expenses in the improvement account for 1865 (as per Superintendent Blackburn's account) are 177,845 09. The expense in the improvement account for 1864 (as per Superintendent Blackburn's account) are 35,082 88.

Showing an excess in improvement account 142,762 21. Total excess for 1865, 145,908 96.

CENTRAL OHIO LUNATIC ASYLUM. Its expenditures (current) for 1865 are \$69,573 05. Its expenditures (current) for 1864 were 59,375 37, showing an excess of 10,197 68.

The expenditures in the improvement account are paid upon contract with Auld and Miller \$25,000 00. Paid sundry other bills specified 3,903 82, not specified 1,096 18, making a total excess in 1865 over 1864 of 48,197 68.

NORTHERN LUNATIC ASYLUM. Its expenditures (current) for 1865 are \$19,555 54. Its expenditures (current) for 1864 were 21,931 42, showing an excess of 19,935 12.

The expenditures in the improvement account (subject to a difference to be explained hereafter) for 1865 are 10,349 37. The expenditures in the improvement account (subject to a difference to be explained hereafter) for 1864 were 1,950 53, showing an excess of 15,099 83.

LONGVIEW ASYLUM. This Institution is not wholly a State Institution. On the \$102,401 62, of receipts for 1865, but \$33,408 10 were from the State.

Its expenditures current and other for 1865 are \$102,197 75. Its expenditures current and other for 1864 were 84,442 23, showing an excess of 15,755 52.

This statement does not do exact justice to the account, inasmuch as some of these items do not belong to the "current expenses."

SOUTHERN OHIO LUNATIC ASYLUM. Its expenditures (current) for 1865 are \$42,923 17. Its expenditures (current) for 1864 were 4,159 67, showing an excess of 7,142 50.

REFORM SCHOOL. The expenditures (current) for 1865 are \$39,129 70. The expenditures (current) for 1864 were 39,129 67, showing an excess of 5,987 12.

THE INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND. The expenditures (current) for 1865 are \$23,452 82. The expenditures (current) for 1864 were 17,440 02, showing an excess of 6,012 80.

ASYLUM FOR IDIOT AND IMBECIL YOUTH. Its expenditures (current) for 1865 are \$12,943 24. Its expenditures (current) for 1864 were 11,195 36, showing an excess of 1,747 88.

It has been seen, by the first general statement at page 4, that the receipts and disbursements of 1865, are alike greatly in excess over those of 1864. This result is to be partly accounted for,

1st. By the fact, that though the rates of levy were the same, the valuations of taxes were much larger in 1865 than those of 1864.

2d. The appropriations of 1865 were much higher than in 1864. This must be a satisfactory reason to the General Assembly.

3d. The Soldiers' Claim Fund (\$227,572 91) passed through the Treasury in 1865, and did not in 1864.

4th. The Allotment Fund of 1865 (\$4,647,563 87) is largely in excess over that of 1864 (\$2,251,480 46) viz: an excess of \$2,396,083 41.

5th. The Soldiers' Relief Fund of 1865 (\$1,981,466 21) is in excess of that over 1864 (\$926,932 43) \$1,054,533 78.

These large differences, of course, go very far to explain the aggregate difference of those balances. How far they can reconcile the taxpayers to the excess, is for them to decide.

SINKING FUND.

The Commissions of the Sinking Fund report the debt of the State, November 15, 1865:

Foreign debt \$12,230,475 90 Domestic debt 681,538 49

Total funded debt, Nov. 15, '65 \$12,912,014 45 Against last year's debt 13,300,751 47

Showing a diminution of \$388,737 02

This difference has been redeemed in the following manner and sums, viz:

Of foreign debt \$384,737 02 Of domestic debt, Miami Canal Extension Loan of 1863, extinguished, 4,000 00

And the balance of that fund in the Treasury and in New York, Nov. 15, 1865, was 354,361 11

COMMON SCHOOLS. Receipts of the Com. School Funds for 1865 are \$1,282,270 64

Showing an excess of \$79,224 77

The report of the Commissioner is replete with many interesting and encouraging statements and suggestions. Those in regard to the new system for instruction and preparation of teachers, I commend especially to your attention. It is hoped that in this fundamental interest, Ohio will not remain behind other States.

I am sorry that I have not time nor space in this too long communication, to speak more at large upon this great general subject of common schools—so much more important than much else here included. One consolation is, that it is because there is apparently less to censure or amend in this department than in some others, that I have less to say upon it.

RAILROADS.

The railroad interests of Ohio have become of immense value to the stockholders, the people and the State. The great changes which this new system of commercial intercourse has brought about are in many respects obvious enough. In others, though equally great, they are not so apparent. Some well digested system of laws suitable to them is quite indispensable. But it is quite necessary for a legislator, framing laws for their taxation, regulation and punishment, to consider all these complicated relations much more cautiously and widely than he might, at first thought, deem essential.

Unquestionably some legislation is necessary to protect the lives, limbs, property and other rights of the people from the encroachments or neglects of these powerful agents. The true line, which shields the people and yet shall not invade the vested and equitable rights of the companies, will necessarily be a most difficult line to find or to follow. This is a generic difficulty. But accidents and special circumstances greatly enhance it. The most important roads for usefulness, and therefore the most important for regulation, are, for example, the Ohio roads in a chain of connection with those of several other States. Goods are started at one of the Eastern cities, and are passed into the custody, for conveyance, of corporation after corporation until they shall reach the delivering company. It is delivered in bad order. Who shall pay the owner his damages? If these companies of the alliance were wise to their own highest interests, they would allow no question to be raised as to their separate liability. They would (as if a single company) pay it, and, as they the most truly could do, assess among themselves the proper liability. But, inasmuch as, in points of fact, they do not, and most of them lie out of our jurisdiction, and in default of the proper remedy by the national legislative authority, what is Ohio to do with the company under her power? Make it pay all the damages? That would be most acceptable to the Eastern company, which is primarily liable by the law of contracts, and which (it may be) committed the injury. But it would be neither just to our own company, nor good policy for our State. This example is of value for another use. The railroads, in order to guard themselves against this frequent danger, have adopted a form of receipts or bills of lading, exempting themselves from such liabilities, by the special contract of the consignee. And they refuse to carry the goods unless this exemption shall be stipulated. Now this is all wrong. As they derive

the profits upon their line as the part of a through line, they should in like manner bear their due share of its burdens. It may be very true, that the refusal to transport is illegal and subjects the company to damages by suit. It is also true that the receipt signed is of no binding force, because against public policy. Still, the case is practically a great wrong committed by the railroads, and a great injury suffered by the community. It is in one, too, which needs legislation. For a large majority of men in such case always suffer, rather than go to law against their own contract, although it may have been extorted under a sort of duress.

Upon a consideration of the whole subject, it seems to me with a frank admission of the extraordinary benefits arising, directly and indirectly, from these institutions—without over-estimating their profits (for the best of them will not be found, in the long run, very profitable,) and without treating this class or its property differently from others—the General Assembly should undertake a system of proper legislation, which should do justice to them and the people.

The subject has many and intrinsic difficulties. The principle of combinations by all such interests; their "sleeping vigilance; their great powers of seducing all authorities from the County Auditors—who tax them—up to the Congress of the United States, which ought to regulate them, by the little thing of a free pass to self and family, are by no means to be overlooked as among them. Perhaps a reasonably severe penalty against the giving or receiving a free pass, in the case of officers, would be a good law. I should think it would be acceptable to the railroad companies, for they are really oppressed and tyrannized over in this way. Whether it would so well suit the Auditors and Congressmen is more doubtful.

AGRICULTURAL LAND-GRANT.

The Committee appointed by the late Governor, under the authority of the Act passed April 15, 1865, after careful examination and consideration, has made its report. It will be duly submitted to you in a special message. I beg leave to say, that having, in the first instance a very different view of the matter I am now persuaded that all things considered, that Committee has decided upon the best course which the State can now pursue in the premises. I commend to the General Assembly a careful consideration of this excellent document.

The more intimately I have known the late lamented Governor Brough, the more have I seen reason to respect all his judgements and to distrust my own, when they chanced to be different. Nevertheless, upon the subject of the grant and the institution contemplated by it, I am bound, if I understand them, to dissent from certain parts of his reasonings and their conclusion in his last message.

He seems to labor under a great difficulty (which does not exist,) upon the old questions of a sacrifice, in the educational establishments, of the practical and the useful, to the scientific and abstruse parts and principles of education. It does seem to me that there need be no such sacrifice. There can be no proper or successful practice or utility in any thing deserving the name of an art, which does not as directly grow out of science, (knowledge of principles), as simple and directly as limbs, leaves, flowers and fruit grow from their proper roots. "Science" and "abstruse" are relative terms, and they more frequently denote our degree of ignorance and unfamiliarity with their subjects than their own intrinsic difficulty or impracticableness. The simple usage of the common farmer, for example, we call practical and useful. But to a barbarian, who had never seen them, they would seem wonderfully deep and strange. And, certainly, there is not one of them, if useful, which does not depend upon the principles of strictest science and many of them upon most abstruse—darkest—principles, too. So of every other art in the catalogue, up to the newest and strangest. Telegraphy and daguerrotype, at first, amazed us all as abstruse sciences. But they are fast becoming household arts, and, if it be really the purpose of the Legislature to elevate this art of agriculture by the use of the sciences in a collegiate instruction, you may depend upon it that this end can alone be attained by teaching, to

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the few, not the many, the most abstruse of all the natural sciences—agricultural chemistry, for instance. "The many" and "the few" are also relative terms, but the time never has been when the many (compared to mankind), have been taught this knowledge of the principles of things; "many," in this sense, can never go to colleges. Nay, more, of the many, in the narrow sense, who do go to college, it is only the few—the very elect few—who master the deep abstruse root of the matter. What then? Are not the many, thereby, benefited and blessed? We might as well say that all who, ignorant of the principle, derive use or enjoyment from a telegram or photograph, were under no obligation to Morse or Daguerre. Upon that theory the dull gardener or farmer, who is incapable of the first proportion of chemistry, is not indebted to Professor Lebig, whose scientific discovery of the needed manure has increased his product and his wealth twenty fold.

It is well enough to talk about "making two blades of grass grow where only one grew before," but the true question is: the how—the law—to make it grow into two and that, or a like useful and practical result, ignorance never devised yet and never will. And whenever it shall be done, it must be done by an accordance with the principles of nature, and that knowledge is science and profoundest science also. It must begin all arts and uses. Afterward they will be repeated to the end of generation, in utter ignorance of the principle (ratinales) of the act they shall be repeating.

So, too, I must think his reasoning in error, in what is said, if I understand its full purport, of the instruction "which pertains to their own callings." At least the foundations out of which the true science and art of agriculture (that kind of agriculture of which we are discussing) must arise, are so many and so deep, that a merely special education, without a very general scholarship below it, can never attain to it. And, whenever it is determined to give the agriculturist a collegiate education, it can only be to the few—it can only be scientific—and, finally, it must ascend from the general to the special instruction.

Aristocracy, personal, social and political, is a bad thing—generally a contemptible spirit—but it is in the nature of things that letters is necessarily an aristocracy. We may rail against the truth but we can not help ourselves. The Bacons, Newtons, Keplers and Agassizs of this world can never be a multitude; I beg pardon for all these truisms (to some). But are they not stoutly denied? And are they not incontrovertibly not merely true, but the essence of the controversy? I conclude this part of the topic with but one remark. When we have determined upon the policy of educating farmers in colleges or universities we have passed the point of most of these discussions. That determination establishes our choice of a liberal education, and liberal education means—itsself.

Upon the questions of manual labor, involved in this subject, I am less clear. Our reason, experiences and prejudices seem all at fault in relation to it. This much, however, is reasonable in my judgment, viz: that there is no use in either colleges or schools to teach the mere manual dexterities of Agriculture—as plowing, hoeing, spading, chopping, and the rest—but it is the intelligence of the principle to be worked and wrought out, which this education is to impart. As much manual labor, at least, must be maintained as will serve definitely and familiarly to exemplify, illustrate and put into visible practice, with its results, the scientific truth, new or old, upon which they must rest.

Some correspondence has been held between the late Governor and those of other States in regard to a common principle of action in the disposition of the Scrip; and various suggestions have been made to by me private individuals for some plan by which it could be sold in larger quantities than by retaining to individual purchasers. But none of these conferences have developed into any plan worthy of calling your attention to them. This subject of the proper disposition of the Scrip is commended to your consideration.

I scarcely know what to say, or advise, in regard to our Military Agencies.