

A REVIEW

OF THE

FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY

OF THE

STATE OF KENTUCKY

FOR THE PAST TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS UNDER DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT, AND A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT CONTRASTING KENTUCKY WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF OTHER STATES.

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DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

GOVERNOR.

P. W. HARDIN.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

R. T. TYLER.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

H. S. HALE.

AUDITOR.

L. C. NORMAN.

TREASURER.

R. C. FORD.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

W. J. HENDRICK.

REGISTER LAND OFFICE.

G. B. SWANGO.

SUPERINTENDENT PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

ED P. THOMPSON.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE.

I. B. NALL.

RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS.

FIRST DISTRICT—J. F. DEMPSEY.

SECOND DISTRICT—GEO. H. ALEXANDER.

THIRD DISTRICT—G. R. KELLER.

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A REVIEW
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OF THE STATE OF KENTUCKY.

A review of the financial and political history of Kentucky for the past twenty-eight years, if honestly undertaken, with a full determination to present the actual facts and figures accompanied by results obtained, will not afford the most carping critic an opportunity to show either inefficiency or incapacity in those charged with governmental duties, and would fully demonstrate that Democratic principles, when honestly applied in the functions of government, result in producing the greatest good to the greatest number.

This period of twenty-eight years is selected because the Republican party in its platform declares that, when the Democratic party came into power in Kentucky, they found the state able to pay every debt and have millions of surplus left, and in the same sentence they state, in substance, that this surplus has been squandered by the Democrats and that the state is now millions of dollars in debt.

As the Democratic party was not responsible for the condition of the treasury as it was found to be in 1867, since the government for the four years immediately preceding that period could by no possibility be charged to them, we are willing to take up the condition of affairs as they existed when the Democrats obtained control of the state government in 1867, and trace the history of the state fairly and intelligently, as verified by its public records, from that date to the present time.

The Republican platform declares, in unmistakable terms, that the Democratic party found millions of surplus in the treasury in 1867. Is this true? If false, would not such a declaration show them unworthy of the confidence of the people of the state?

We ask your patient consideration of the figures given in the Auditor's report for 1867. On page 14 of said report it appears that while there was a balance in the treasury on October 10,

1867, "not of millions of dollars," but of only \$25,857.91 belonging to the Revenue Fund of the state, which could, under the law alone, be used for ordinary expenses of the government, there was, on the other hand, a deficit of \$137,031.92 (see page 14, Auditor's report, 1867), and there was also due the Sinking Fund from the Revenue Fund (see page 499 same report) the sum of \$381,239.56, which had been borrowed from the Sinking Fund to meet the ordinary expenses of the state government, previously contracted, and also the sum of \$28,465.28 due on sundry accounts (see page 56 same report), all of which constituted an actual deficit in the Revenue Fund of \$546,737.76.

There was in the treasury to the credit of the Sinking Fund, on October 10, 1867, the sum of \$1,438,493.36. In addition the Revenue Fund, or department, owed to the Sinking Fund, as has just been stated, \$381,239.56. The commissioners of the Sinking Fund also had on deposit in the Farmers Bank \$18,026.81. There was due from the Revenue Fund on October 10, 1867, \$81,289.98, which could not be paid, because there were no funds available for that purpose. The state also owned stock in banks and railroads amounting to \$1,272,819.50, and stock in Internal Improvements, "the present value of which is uncertain" (see language of report), amounting in the aggregate to \$4,830,475.00. These constituted the entire assets of the state, except the \$25,000 in the treasury, and belonging wholly to the Sinking Fund (see page 499, Auditor's report, 1867).

In order to understand these statements it may be necessary to state that this Sinking Fund was created to provide means to pay off the bonded debt of the state previously created, and could not lawfully be used for any other purpose whatever (see section 34, article II, Third Constitution of Kentucky).

The total bonded debt of the state on October 10, 1867, was \$4,611,199.46. Of available assets to meet this debt there were in the treasury, belonging to the Sinking Fund, \$1,438,493.36; in railroad and bank stocks, \$1,272,819.50, and in bank, \$18,026.81, making a total of \$2,729,339.67. The loan to the Revenue Department of \$381,239.56, and the \$81,289.93 due from the Revenue Funds, and not transferred, were not available, because there was only the sum of twenty-five thousand and odd dollars in the treasury, in the general Revenue Fund, and these latter sums could not be had until collected and saved from the excess of future receipts over future disbursements of the Revenue Funds alone.

The stock in Internal Improvements, held by the Sinking Fund Commissioners, was not available for the purpose, as will here-

after be shown. To meet the bonded debt of \$4,611,199.46 there was only available, therefore, the sum of \$2,729,339.67, which, when so applied, left a debt of \$1,881,859.79 to be provided for in the future. Allowing as a credit the actual value of the stock in Internal Improvements of \$500,000.00, and the indebtedness of the Revenue Fund to the Sinking Fund of \$462,529.54, making a total of \$962,529.54 to be deducted from the remainder of \$1,881,859.79, the actual debt of the state would be \$919,330.25.

As, however, the state still owns these Internal Improvement stocks, except as hereinafter noted, and as the bonded debt includes the total of \$4,611,199.45 the state and county school bonds, amounting to \$1,632,297.46, which are by their terms and by constitutional provisions irredeemable, the correct comparison of credits and debits, in order to determine the precise financial condition, is to exclude both these items.

The bonded debt of the state other than the state and county school bonds amounted on October 10, 1867, to \$2,987.891 98, and the total available assets, if the bank and railroad stock could have been sold for the amount at which they were carried in the assets of the Sinking Fund, were only \$2,729,339.61, leaving a balance unpaid of \$249,552.38, to which must be added the actual deficit in the Revenue Fund on October 10, 1867, of \$546,737.76 (see page 56, Auditor's report, 1867), making a total indebtedness of the state at that date \$796,290.14.

These are plain facts taken from the public records and stamp the statement contained in the Republican platform as a flagrant attempt to deceive the public by false and deliberate misrepresentations.

The stock in Internal Improvements consisted of \$2,528,110-97 in turnpike roads, \$901,932.70 stock in Kentucky River, \$859,126.79 Green and Barren River Improvements, \$372,520.70 Licking River, and \$168,783.83 in the Owingsville and Big Sandy Dirt Road.

The stock in the River Improvements had no value, and the works were carried on at a constant and increasing loss, amounting in 1867 to more than \$75,000 (see Board of Internal Improvements' report, vol. II, Pub. Docs. 1867.)

All these River Improvements have been ceded to the general government, and the latter has expended on Kentucky river alone one and a half million dollars, in repairing and maintaining the system, and derives no revenue therefrom, no tolls being taken.

The Owingsville and Big Sandy Dirt Road is still on hand, and probably in no better condition than when it was turned

over to the Democratic party, with the other fictitious millions of surplus left by their predecessors in 1867.

The stocks held in the River Improvements, as well as the turnpike stocks, were not permanent investments made by the state, but were merely cash subscriptions to the various enterprises, under the system of Internal Improvements, adopted in or about the year 1834, to promote the development of all portions of the state, by securing a system of improved roads and waterways; and the turnpike stocks, with the exception of five roads sold by special act of the legislature, for which the state realized the sum of \$24,713.83, and three other non-dividend paying roads, donated to the counties through which they ran, by the same authority, are still owned by the state. The remainder of these stocks are carried in the assets of the Sinking Fund at their actual value of \$500,000 estimated upon a dividend-paying basis, since they produce an annual revenue, equal to about five per cent on that sum; and it may not be a comforting fact to our critics, but it is nevertheless true, that the remainder of these stocks now yields more net revenue to the state than the whole \$4,830,000 did in 1867. It must be borne in mind that these stocks can not be sold or otherwise disposed of without express legislative sanction, the power and duty of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund extending only to their control.

That these Internal Improvements are not more valuable than they are can hardly be attributed by men of intelligence to the conduct of state affairs by the Democratic party.

Modern modes of transportation, often by parallel lines, have rendered them comparatively worthless; but they have served their purpose in the development of the state, and are still important to the localities for neighborhood travel. It might as well be said that the Republican party should be held responsible for the disuse and consequent failure of the White Water Canal in Ohio, because its banks have been lined with railroad tracks, as to hold the Democratic party in Kentucky responsible for the decline in the value of its stocks in river, turnpike and dirt roads, now that we have more than three thousand miles of railroads traversing our state.

During the current fiscal years from 1867-8 to 1894-5 inclusive, the Democratic state officials have received and disbursed in the way of taxes, public dues and public moneys, a total sum of \$79,957,731.99. Of this sum \$30,141,667.67, or more than three-eighths, have been devoted to education and the maintenance of our common school system; \$12,171,319.35 have been devoted to the extension and maintenance of our charitable institutions; \$10,336,339.42 have been paid out in the expenses attending

criminal prosecutions, and the remainder, \$27,308,405.55 has been applied to the payment of the other ordinary expenses of the state government, which have averaged less than one million dollars per year.

During this long period of time there has been but one defalcation by a state official. The aggregate of his misappropriation of the public moneys was \$247,128.50. But there has been recovered and paid into the treasury on account of said defalcation \$118,948.91, leaving unaccounted for at the present time \$128,179.59, some portion of which is still the subject of litigation and may yet be collected. But if we assume that nothing more can or will be collected, the total loss to the state will be less than one-sixth of one per cent of the gross sum received and disbursed. Such a result bears favorable comparison with the business management of any other state government, and is in striking contrast to the fraudulent maladministration of public affairs by Republican officials in the Southern states during the period of Republican rule, and to the conduct of some of the Republican pension officers, collectors of Internal Revenue and United States marshals who have held office in Kentucky.

The condition of the state finances to-day should be most gratifying, not only to the taxpayer, but every citizen who desires an honest and economically administered government.

Only the minimum amount of taxes for governmental purposes has been taken from the people, and these taxes have been so expended as to obtain full and absolute protection to all interests alike, and law and order are everywhere secured.

The material advancement of the state is shown on every hand, and while our growth in wealth and population has not been equal to that of some of the younger and more recently settled states of the Union, it has far exceeded many of the older Eastern states, and has been of the most substantial and enduring character.

Kentucky is to-day in the midst of peace and plenty, and it is not in the power of the "Calamity Howler" to convince the people of this state, surrounded by its full and overflowing harvests, with prices for all kinds of farm produce improving and steady and increasing demand for labor of every kind and character, and every channel of trade open for the employment of its capital, that the evil days resulting from Republican misrule in national affairs are not passing away.

Without a dollar of state debt that can not now be paid and with a lower rate of taxation than will be found in almost any other state in the Union the people of the state are to be con-

gratulated on having so far escaped the condition of affairs that has followed wherever the Republican party, with all its ignorance, prejudice and greed, has obtained control.

The total bonded debt of the state, exclusive of the perpetual school bonds, which by their terms can not be redeemed, and are but endowments of the common school fund, is but \$614,000, \$114,000 of which is due in 1896, and \$500,000 due in 1905. The available assets to meet this debt are:

In Treasury (to credit of Sinking Fund)	\$139,891 11
Four hundred shares Bank of Louisville stock	30,450 00
Turnpike stock, at present value	500,000 00
Making a total of	<u>\$670,341 11</u>

In addition thereto the current rate of taxation for Sinking Fund purposes would be amply sufficient to meet the entire bonded debt at its maturity, without using any portion of the assets now held by the Commissioners of Sinking Fund.

There is no other debt or demand of any other nature or kind against the state, except current claims for charities, salaries and the ordinary expenses of the state government. All of these claims will be paid as rapidly as they can be audited and adjusted.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE.

To charge the Democratic party of Kentucky with lack of enterprise is not only absurd and untrue, but it is a slander upon the majority of the white population of the state. To sneer at the progress of the state's development is to ignore plain facts and confess ignorance of the geographical and commercial conditions that have affected the state's advancement.

In common with all the country, the state keenly felt the effect of the great panic of 1873, and also of the depression following 1893; but through the general course of years there has been a very notable advance of values, and with the last fifteen years the increase in assessable wealth has been enormous.

Following are some data touching the question, which may tend to aid in correcting the false notions so industriously fostered and spread abroad by certain Republican politicians:

I. EQUALIZED ASSESSABLE WEALTH.

(This for later years is exclusive of railroad, bank and certain

other corporations, the figures here given being based on equalized returns received from county assessors.)

Increase of 1895 over 1880	\$222,643,007
Increase of 1895 over 1885	182,379,015
Increase of 1895 over 1890	60,601,458
Increase of 1895 over 1892	20,442,440
Increase of 1895 over 1894	1,986,636

(On account of the panic of 1873 there was a decrease from 1870 to 1880 amounting to \$61,173,761; and there was a decrease from 1893 to 1894 amounting to \$25,578,734, of which there was a recovery of nearly \$2,000,000 in 1895.)

2. MANUFACTURES.

Capital invested in manufactures in 1880 (according to U. S. Census report) amounted to \$45,813,039. Complete figures for 1890 have not been received, but for that year the census office has reported the capital invested in manufacturing in four cities alone (Louisville, Lexington, Newport and Covington) at \$48,075,633—being more than reported for the entire state in 1880—and it is probable that the total amount invested has doubled. The Commissioner of Agriculture estimated it at \$65,000,000 or \$70,000,000 in 1891.

In the decade ending with 1890, the capital invested in wool manufacturing had grown from \$890,750 to \$2,766,683; and the capital invested in cotton manufacturing had grown from \$360,000 to \$1,376,132.

3. COAL MINING.

Despite the fierce competition that has marked the coal mining industry in recent years, the production of commercial coal has grown from 169,120 tons in 1870 to 2,483,144 tons in 1890, and to nearly 3,000,000 tons in 1894.

The number of commercial mines has nearly trebled in the last ten years, increasing from less than 50 in 1880 to 138 in 1894.

The number of employes at the mines has increased from about 500 in 1870 to over 11,000 in 1894, representing a population of 35,000 or 40,000.

4. IMMIGRATION.

Criticism of Democratic administration on the score of inattention to immigration, when not malicious, is due to ignorance of

facts. For six years the state maintained a regularly organized Immigration Bureau, through the efforts of which thousands of selected immigrants (reported at 10,000 in 1887) were brought into the state, and the distribution of immigration literature and the attendant correspondence are kept up to this day. The numerous flourishing colonies that have been planted in the state directly through the efforts of the bureau are satisfactory witnesses for Democratic administration on this subject. Nearly if not quite all the work now going on in other states is being done by railroads—some of them land-grant roads—and by private associations. Perhaps no state, with no public lands at its disposal, has done more for immigration than has Kentucky. Mr. Bradley says the triumph of his party will encourage immigration, because “it will be an assurance of safety,” etc., and yet most of the feuds and assassinations to which reference is made as hindering immigration have occurred in Republican strongholds.

OUR COMMON SCHOOL SYSTEM.

If there is any one thing in the history of the Democratic party of the state, over and above all others that can successfully challenge investigation, it is the devotion shown by the party to the common school system, and its intelligent and successful management of the funds devoted to that purpose. It has increased the funds used for the maintenance of the common schools from the pitiful sum of \$233,365.77 collected in 1867, to the magnificent sum of \$2,029,557.42 paid to the schools in the year ending July 1, 1895. It has increased the tax rate for school purposes from 5 to 22 cents on the hundred dollars in the same period and the per capita from 72 cents to \$2.80, and in addition provided for the payment of the interest due on all school bonds it has devoted to the cause of education, out of the other funds of the state, practically making this aid out of the public treasury amount to over 25 cents on the hundred dollars of taxable property in the state. No child, white or black, these funds being used alike for each, need be deprived of an opportunity to obtain a good education in the public schools of the state; and this, too, when the whole amount of taxes for all purposes derived from the negroes of the state would not amount to over one-sixteenth of the sum paid to educate their children out of the public funds. It has increased the length of terms to be taught, raised the standard of efficiency in both teachers and in the system, and devotes more money to the cause

of education from its public revenues than almost any other state in the Union. It pays four times as much money for public schools out of its state treasury as does the state of Kansas, twice as much as Michigan, and nearly one-half as much as the great state of New York, with three and one-third times our population and six and one-fourth times our wealth. A favorite practice with certain Republican politicians of Kentucky, which is in line with their general habit of defaming the state, is to sneer at our educational conditions, and to "point with pride" to those states that are "blessed" with Republican rule.

Compared with such rock-ribbed Republican states as Ohio, Maine, Michigan, Vermont, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Massachusetts, the Democratic state of Kentucky, according to the last United States census, leads them all in the number of pupils, per thousand of population, enrolled in the common schools. Omitting Ohio, Kentucky also leads them all in the number of pupils, per thousand of population, enrolled in all schools—public, private, university and parochial.

The following figures, based on the census returns, speak for themselves:

ENROLLED IN COMMON SCHOOLS PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.	
Kentucky	220
Ohio	217
Maine	211
Michigan	204
Vermont	197
Pennsylvania	192
New Hampshire	159
Rhode Island	153
Massachusetts	121

Compared with all the states, Kentucky stands tenth in the number of pupils, per thousand of population, enrolled in the common schools, and eleventh in the number enrolled (per thousand of population) in all schools, according to returns of the last United States census.

Certainly there is nothing discreditable to Democratic administration of state affairs in this; particularly in view of the fact that the per capita has been more than doubled within the last twelve years.

PENITENTIARIES.

The Democratic party on coming into power in the state found the penitentiary conducted under the old lease or keeper system, and was not enabled for some years to effect a change in it. In 1880, however, the warden system was adopted, and with recent amendments to that law, by which the state feeds, clothes and guards its prisoners, leasing only the labor to be worked within its walls, under such reasonable regulations as the law imposes, it has at last succeeded in making its convict system one that is fully up to the standard of that of the most enlightened state in the Union.

Large expenditures were necessitated by the constantly increasing number of these unfortunates, and has made an additional prison necessary, which has been constructed, but these outlays have been fully repaid by the improved condition of the entire prison system, which is readily apparent to all concerned.

That these radical changes have been made under existing circumstances and without materially increasing the burdens of taxation is cause for congratulation, and demonstrates the sincerity and earnestness with which those responsible for the condition of our criminal classes have labored.

CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS.

In the five counties first named below, where law and order are enforced by Democratic officials—some of them having therein the principal cities of the state, and others taken from the agricultural portions of the Commonwealth, with a population made up of all classes of society—contrasted with the five counties that follow them, where Republican officials have had charge, a fair comparison can be instituted between the cost of the administration of justice by Democrats and by Republicans:

DEMOCRATIC COUNTIES.

In the ten years preceding July 1, 1895, the cost of criminal prosecutions in the

County of Jefferson.

With a population (U. S. Census 1890) of 188,598,
was \$447,428 56

During this period there were convicted in this county and sent to penitentiary 1,079 persons charged with felony, at an average cost of . \$414 67

County of Kenton.

With a population of 54,161, the cost of criminal prosecutions was \$60,077 37
 Convicted and sentenced to penitentiary, 128,
 at an average cost of \$469 35

County of Bourbon.

With a population of 16,976, the cost of criminal prosecutions was 36,322 39
 Convicted and sentenced to penitentiary, 91,
 at an average cost of \$399 14

County of Harrison.

With a population of 16,914, the cost of criminal prosecutions was 20,422 33
 Convicted and sentenced to penitentiary, 27,
 at an average cost of \$756 29

County of Bullitt.

With a population of 8,291, the cost of criminal prosecutions was 10,526 97
 Convicted and sentenced to penitentiary, 20,
 at an average cost of \$526 35
 Total average cost in five Democratic counties \$427 34

REPUBLICAN COUNTIES.

County of Whitley.

With a population of 17,590, the cost of criminal prosecutions was \$57,136 92
 Convicted and sentenced to penitentiary, 72,
 at an average cost of \$794 12

County of Knox.

With a population of 13,762, the cost of criminal prosecutions was 59,225 02
 Convicted and sentenced to penitentiary, 54,
 at an average cost of \$1,096 76

County of Pulaski.

With a population of 25,731, the cost of criminal prosecutions was 48,118 15
 Convicted and sentenced to penitentiary, 71,
 at an average cost of \$677 72

*County of Perry.**

With a population of 6,331, the cost of criminal prosecutions was \$34,129 35
 Convicted and sentenced to penitentiary, 21,
 at an average cost of \$1,625 20

County of Clay.

With a population of 12,447, the cost of criminal prosecutions was 56,485 96
 Convicted and sentenced to penitentiary, 59,
 at an average cost of \$957 38
 Total average cost in five Republican counties \$920 92

* NOTE.—For first seven and one-half years of the period named, in Perry county the county officials were all Republicans, and the circuit judge of the same political party, and for the last two and one-half years, while the county officials have remained Republican, the circuit judge has been a Democrat, and the cost of criminal prosecutions has been decreased several thousand dollars.

STATEMENT

COMPILED FROM THE AUDITOR'S REPORTS AND THE UNITED STATES CENSUS, SHOWING THE GROSS RECEIPTS, TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND AMOUNT PAID FOR SCHOOLS, ORDINARY EXPENSES AND IDIOTS, FROM OCTOBER 10, 1868, TO JULY 1, 1895, WITH PER CAPITA COMPARISONS BETWEEN REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC DISTRICTS.

Period of one term from 1868 to 1874. There was but one Republican judicial district in the state between the years mentioned, and W. H. Randall was the judge and H. F. Finley the commonwealth's attorney. The district was composed of the following counties: Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, Letcher, Perry, Rockcastle and Whitley.

The records show the following :

TOTAL DISTRICTS.		Population.
Republican		71,500
Democratic		1,381,500
		Gross Receipts, Six Years.
Republican	\$	207,424 26
Democratic		11,946,797 60

	Total Expenditures, Six Years.
Republican	\$ 547,131 62
Democratic	8,584,419 65
	Total for Schools, Six Years.
Republican	\$ 259,363 11
Democratic	3,831,453 30
	Ordinary Expenses, Six Years.
Republican	\$ 287,768 51
Democratic	4,752,966 35
	For Pauper Idiots, Six Years.
Republican	\$ 30,641 33
Democratic	108,264 12

PER CAPITA COMPARISONS.

	Fifteenth Dist. Republican.	Rest State. Democratic.
Gross Receipts	\$2 90	\$8 65
Ordinary Expenses	4 02	3 44
Total Expenditures	7 65	6 21
Paid to Idiots	0 428	0 078

Period of one term, from 1874 to 1880. There were two Republican judicial districts in the state between the years mentioned, Geo. M. Thomas being the judge in the Fourteenth and A. E. Cole the commonwealth's attorney; and W. M. Randall the judge in the Fifteenth and Jas. H. Tinsley the commonwealth's attorney. The counties composing the Fourteenth district were the following: Fleming, Greenup, Lewis, Mason, Nicholas and Rowan. Those composing the Fifteenth were as follows: Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, Letcher, Perry, Rockcastle and Whitley.

The records show the following:

Districts.	Population.	Gross Receipts Six Years.	Total Expenditures Six Years.
Fourteenth	73,800	\$546,931 00	\$ 506,945 33
Fifteenth	75,000	210,707 84	728,583 91
Total Republican	148,800	\$757,638 84	\$1,235,529 24
Districts.	Schools. Six Years.	Ordinary Expenses Six Years.	Pauper Idiots Six Years.
Fourteenth	\$256,697 38	\$250,247 95	\$15,434 07
Fifteenth	326,827 38	401,756 53	69,579 07
Total Republican	\$583,524 76	\$652,004 48	\$85,013 14

The totals for the rest of the state which contain Democratic districts show the following:

Population	1,370,200
Gross Receipts, six years	\$10,447,339 63
Total Expenditures, six years	9,864,319 03
For Schools, six years	4,576,275 90
For Ordinary Expenses, six years	5,288,043 13
For Idiots, six years	211,319 06

PER CAPITA COMPARISONS.

	Republican.		Both.	Democratic, Rest of State.
	Fourteenth.	Fifteenth.		
Gross Receipts	\$7 40	\$2 81	\$5 09	\$7 62
Ordinary Expenses	3 38	5 38	4 38	3 86
Total Expenditures	6 87	9 71	8 30	7 19
Total Idiots	0 209	0 927	0 571	0 154

Period of one term from 1880 to 1886. There was but one Republican judicial district in the state between the years mentioned, and H. F. Finley was the judge and H. C. Eversole the commonwealth's attorney. The following counties composed the district: Bell, Clay, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, Leslie, Letcher, Owsley, Perry, Whitley and Knott.

The records show the following:

POPULATION.

Republican, Fifteenth district, 90,000; Democratic, rest of state, 1,641,100.

	Gross Receipts, Six Years.	Total Expendi- tures, Six Years.
Fifteenth District	\$ 249,310 79	\$ 677,157 16
Rest of State	12,736,452 50	9,862,181 05

	Schools, Six Years.	Ordinary Expenses, Six Years.	Idiots, Six Years.
Fifteenth District	\$ 311,415 00	\$ 365,742 16	\$ 70,592 33
Rest of State	4,947,565 55	4,914,615 50	352,870 15

PER CAPITA COMPARISONS.

	Republican, Fifteenth District.	Demo- cratic, Rest of State.
Gross Receipts	\$2 77	\$7 15
Ordinary Expenses	4 06	2 81
Total Expenditures	7 52	6 13
For Idiots	0 784	0 215

Period of one term from 1886 to 1892. There were four Republican judicial districts in the state between the years mentioned, the Seventh having D. H. Carr for judge and J. G. Craddock for commonwealth's attorney; the Eighth having T. Z. Morrow for judge and Wm. Herndon for commonwealth's attorney; the

Fifteenth having Robert Boyd for judge and A. H. Clark for commonwealth's attorney; the Nineteenth having H. C. Lilly for judge and James P. Marrs for commonwealth's attorney.

The records show the following :

POPULATION.

Seventh District	113,164
Eighth District	108,456
Fifteenth District	79,780
Nineteenth District	68,760
Total Republican	370,155
Rest of State Democratic	1,488,480

For four Republican districts :

	Gross Receipts, Six Years.	Total Expendi- tures, Six Years.
Seventh District	\$ 444,731 31	\$ 792,309 27
Eighth District	703,177 42	812,249 78
Fifteenth District	359,852 78	722,431 73
Nineteenth District	275,498 84	700,260 49
Total	\$1,783,260 35	\$3,027,251 27

	Schools, Six Years.	Ordinary Expenses, Six Years.	Idiots, Six Years.
Seventh District	\$ 530,359 42	\$ 261,949 85	\$ 48,594 87
Eighth District	496,210 36	316,039 42	65,257 55
Fifteenth District	361,634 95	360,796 78	50,660 84
Nineteenth District	334,509 44	365,751 05	51,220 84
Total	\$1,722,714 17	\$1,304,537 10	\$215,734 10

The totals for the rest of the state which contain Democratic districts show the following :

Gross Receipts, six years	\$16,122,043 77
Total Expenditures, six years	12,304,886 65
Ordinary Expenses, six years	5,615,579 99
For Schools, six years	6,689,306 66
For Idiots, six years	292,077 13

PER CAPITA COMPARISONS.

	Seventh District.	Eighth District.	Republican, Fifteenth District.	Nineteenth District.	Alto- gether.	Demo- cratic. Rest of State.
Gross Receipts	\$3 93	\$6 48	\$4 51	\$4 00	\$4 82	\$10 83
Ordinary Expenses,	2 31	2 91	4 52	5 31	3 52	3 77
Total Expenses	6 12	7 48	9 05	10 18	8 18	8 26
Idiots	0 429	0 601	0 635	0 759	0 582	0 196

Period of three years from 1892 to 1895. There were three Republican districts in the state between the years mentioned, the Twenty-seventh having A. H. Clark for judge and W. R. Ramsey for commonwealth's attorney; the Twenty-eighth having

T. Z. Morrow for judge and C. W. Lester for commonwealth's attorney; and the Twenty-ninth having W. W. Jones for judge and J. C. Muncie for commonwealth's attorney.

The records show the following:

Districts.	Population.	Gross Receipts, Three Years.	Total Expenditures, Three Years.
Twenty-seventh	58,156	\$105,680 42	\$337,065 20
Twenty-eighth	72,971	133,506 19	338,568 05
Twenty-ninth	63,017	126,131 69	266,884 95
Total	194,144	\$365,318 30	\$942,518 20
Districts.	Schools, Three Years.	Ordinary Expenses, Three Years.	Idiots, Three Years.
Twenty-seventh	\$206,341 80	\$130,723 40	\$13,436 05
Twenty-eighth	237,324 20	101,243 85	21,189 40
Twenty-ninth	186,855 40	80,029 55	16,258 33
Total	\$630,521 40	\$311,996 80	\$50,883 78

The totals for the rest of the state which contain Democratic districts show the following:

Population	1,664 491
Gross Receipts, three years	\$9,042,893 71
Total Expenditures, three years	7,668,687 14
For Schools, three years	5,215,913 71
For Idiots, three years	167,547 15
Ordinary Expenses, three years	2,452,773 43

PER CAPITA COMPARISONS.

	Republican.			Democratic.
	Twenty-seventh.	Twenty-eighth.	Twenty-ninth.	Rest of State.
Gross Receipts	\$1 82	\$1 83	\$2 00	\$1 88
Ordinary Expenses, 2 25		1 39	1 27	1 60
Total Expendit' res, 5 79		4 64	4 23	4 85
Idiots	0 23	0 29	0 25	0 262

The counties composing the districts above mentioned are for the Twenty-seventh district, Clay, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, Leslie and Owsley; for the Twenty-eighth district, Clinton, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Wayne and Whitley; for the Twenty-ninth district, Adair, Casey, Cumberland, Metcalfe, Monroe and Russell.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE AVERAGE PER CAPITA FOR THE WHOLE PERIOD, REPUBLICAN COMPARED TO DEMOCRATIC DISTRICTS, FROM OCTOBER 10, 1868, TO JULY 1, 1895.

	Republican.	Democratic.
Gross Receipts	\$3 84	\$7 99
Ordinary Expenses	3 34	3 05
Total Expenditures	7 46	6 39
Idiots	0 517	0 15

The average per capita comparisons above set out are based on the following total figures for the entire period, the Republican districts being kept to themselves and the Democratic likewise :

	Republican.	Democratic.
Population	874,599	7,545,771
Gross Receipts	\$3,362,952 54	\$60,295,527 21
Total Expenditures	6,429,587 49	48,284,493 52
Paid Schools	3,507,538 44	25,260,515 12
Ordinary Expenses	2,922,049 05	23,023,978 40
Paid Idiots	452,864 68	1,132,077 61

COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS CONTRASTING KENTUCKY WITH
MICHIGAN, KANSAS AND NEW YORK.

The following comparisons have been carefully compiled from the official reports of the states named. The state of Michigan being a Republican state, the state of Kansas Republican and Populistic and the state of New York having alternated between the two great political parties for years will present a fair contrast of the economy in the administration of public affairs and the liberality of each state in encouraging and promoting the cause of education :

MICHIGAN.

AUDITOR'S REPORT YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1894.

	Population 1890.	Percentage Increase in 10 years.	
Michigan	2,093,889	27 92	
Kentucky	1,858,635	12.73	
	Total Taxable Valuation.	State Tax Rate.	
Michigan	\$1,130,000,000	17 $\frac{9}{100}$	
Kentucky	677,664,100	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	Gross Receipts in Treasury.	Paid for Schools.	School Per Capita.
Michigan	*\$3,643,619 28	\$1,033,334 92	\$1 53
Kentucky	* 3,834,187 97	2,062,233 55	2 75
	Number Pupils.	Net Amount Governmental Purposes after deducting Amount School.	
Michigan	676,073	\$2,610,284 36	
Kentucky	713,653	1,771,954 42	

* Michigan raises nearly as much revenue by indirect as direct taxation, Kentucky only half as much.

	Amount Taxes Each Inhabitant Paid for Governmental Pur- poses, 1894.	Proportion Amount for Governmental Pur- poses Bears to the Gross Receipts, 1894.
Michigan	\$1.246	71 per cent.
Kentucky	0.953	46 per cent.

As Kentucky pays for criminal prosecutions and Michigan does not, this amount should properly be deducted from the \$1,771,954 in order to show a fair comparison of amounts actually paid out by each state for purely governmental purposes.

Under head "Criminal Prosecutions," Kentucky paid for year ending June, 1894	\$236,913 83
Cost grand juries, year to July 1, 1893	\$ 69,126 00
One-half cost petit juries same year, as estimated part of criminal prosecutions	127,127 24
	<u>196,253 24</u>
Total for criminal prosecutions	\$433,167 07

In addition to this sum, Kentucky pays for following for which Michigan does not pay:

County Assessors	\$104,122 91
Expresses	4,959 08
Jury Commissioners	1,194 00
Record Books	32,890 63
Revenue Supervisors	24,188 00
Rewards	4,525 00
	<u>171 879 62</u>
Total amount paid by Kentucky for certain expenses for which Michigan does not pay	<u>\$605,046 69</u>

This amount deducted from \$1,771,954 leaves \$1,166,908 as the net amount paid out by Kentucky for purely governmental purposes, and is a trifle more than 30 per cent of the gross receipts, as compared to 71 per cent paid out by Michigan.

To receive and disburse \$3,643,619 gross receipts, as compared with Kentucky's \$3,834,187 gross receipts, Michigan has the following roll of state officers and salaries as compared with like officers and salaries paid in Kentucky:

	Governor.	Total.
Michigan, \$4,000; private secretary, \$1,800; clerk, \$1,466	\$	7,266
Kentucky, 5,200; private secretary, 1,200		6,400
	<i>Secretary of State.</i>	
Michigan, secretary, deputy and clerk, \$4,600; extra clerks, \$41,829		46,429
Kentucky, secretary, assistant and clerk		6,300

Treasurer.

Michigan, treasurer, deputy and clerks	\$ 7,399
Kentucky, treasurer and assistant	5,300

Auditor.

Michigan, auditor and clerks, \$14,299; extra clerical force, \$90- 455	104,754
Kentucky, auditor and clerks	19,300

Land Office.

Michigan, regular force, \$7,000; extra, \$6,528	13,528
Kentucky, regular force	5,400

Superintendent Public Instruction.

Michigan, regular force, \$3,490; extra, \$4,710	8,200
Kentucky, regular force	6,160

Attorney-General.

Michigan, attorney-general and clerks	5,460
Kentucky, attorney-general	700

State Librarian.

Michigan, regular force, \$2,100; extra, \$2,140	4,240
Kentucky, regular force	1,900

Insurance Commissioner.

Michigan, regular force, \$4,550; extra, \$641	5,191
Kentucky, regular force, \$9,300; extra, \$80	9,380

Railroad Commissioners.

Michigan, regular force, \$5,495; extra, \$941	6,437
Kentucky, regular force	7,200

GRAND TOTAL OF ALL THESE OFFICES.

Michigan, regular, \$71,733; extra, \$157,967	\$229,701
Kentucky, regular, \$67,960; extra, \$80	68,040

Difference in favor of Kentucky for officials named \$141,661

LEGISLATIVE EXPENSES COMPARED.

Both states have a sixty-day session, and the figures below show the cost of the last session of each state:

Senate.

	Michigan.	Kentucky.
Number of officers	47	14
Pay of officers	\$16,024 50	\$5,729 10
Number of members	32	38
Pay of members	\$14,918 00	\$13,490 00
Total pay of officers and members	\$30,942 50	\$19,219 10

House.

	Michigan.	Kentucky.
Number of officers	84	17
Pay of officers	\$22,918 37	\$6,057 50
Number of members	100	100
Pay of members	\$46,191 00	\$35,500 00

Both Houses.

	Michigan.	Kentucky.
Total pay of officers and members	\$69,109 37	\$41,557 50
Total mileage, stationery and other expenses	6,314 20	13,772 90
Totals	\$75,423 57	\$55,330 40

KANSAS.

AUDITOR'S REPORT YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1894.

	Population 1890.	Proportion.	Percentage Increase in 10 Years.	
Kansas	1,427,096	Kansas not quite 4-5 as large as Kentucky.	43.27	
Kentucky	1,858,635		12.73	
		Total Taxable Valuation.	State Tax Rate.	
Kansas		\$397,266,405	39 cents	
Kentucky		677,664,100	42½ cents	
		Gross Receipts in Treasury.	Annual State Aid to Schools.	Number of Pupils.
Kansas		\$2,395,015	\$ 505,127 85	496,139
Kentucky		3,834,187	2,062,233 55	713,653
	School Per Capita.	Net Amt. Gov. Purposes, after Deducting Amt. for Schools.	Proportion this Amount Bears to Gross Receipts.	
Kansas	\$1 01	\$1,889,887	79 per cent	
Kentucky	2 75	1,771,954	46 per cent	

If the amount for "Criminal Prosecutions" and other expenses be deducted which Kentucky pays for and Kansas does not, and for which estimate see comparison with Michigan, the proportion then paid for purely governmental purposes by Kentucky was only a trifle more than 30 per cent of the gross receipts, as compared with 79 per cent paid by Kansas.

Simply deducting the amount for schools from the gross receipts, and which in Kansas left \$1,889,887, and in Kentucky \$1,771,954, each inhabitant of the said states paid for governmental purposes:

Kansas	\$1 324
Kentucky	953

NOTE.—The number of pupils is taken from the Superintendent's Report, 1893-1894, and the per capita is computed from that number and the amount paid out by the state for 1894.

STATE BONDED INDEBTEDNESS.

	1894.	Per Capita.
Kansas	\$801,000	\$0 561
Kentucky	674,000	0 362

BONDED DEBT, UNITED STATES CENSUS REPORT 1890.

	State and County less Sinking Fund.		Per Capita.	
	1880.,	1890.	1880.	1890.
Kansas	\$8,966,421	\$15,713,542	\$9 00	\$11 01
Kentucky	7,036,141	7,619,785	4 27	4 10

SALARY ROLL, STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF KANSAS.

	Total.
Governor, \$3,000, and department	\$22,800
Executive Council	17,310
Secretary of State, \$2,500, and department	9,500
Auditor, \$2,500, and department	10,300
Treasurer, \$2,500, and department	9,900
Attorney-General, \$2,500, and department	7,500
Superintendent Public Instruction, \$2,000, and department	6,950
Adjutant-General, \$1,500, department and expenses	34,750
Insurance Superintendent, \$2,000, and department	5,000
Railroad Commissioners, three at \$2,500 each and department	11,000
Bank Commissioners, three at \$2,500 each and department	10,000
State Librarian, \$1,600, and department	3,900
State Board of Agriculture, secretary, clerks and department	7,263
State Horticulture Society, secretary, and department	1,435
State Board of Health, secretary, \$2,000, and department	13,500
State Board of Pardons	2,500
Labor Commissioner, department	5,000
State Mine Inspector	2,000
Live Stock Sanitary Commission	5,000
Silk Station	3,600
Forestry Station	3,900
Fish Commissioners	500
State Board of Public Works	6,000
Police Commissioners	8,400
Total for Kansas	\$208,008
Total for Kentucky (executive officers only)	121,637
Difference in favor of Kentucky	\$86,371

COST OF STATE PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Kansas, printing, \$64,000; paper, etc., \$16,000	80,000
Kentucky, printing, \$49,314; paper, etc., \$13,775	63,089
Difference in favor of Kentucky	\$16,911

NEW YORK.

COMPTROLLER'S REPORT, YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1894.
POPULATION 1890.

The population of New York in 1890, as shown by the United States census of that year, was 5,997,853; of Kentucky for the same year, 1,858,635. The population of New York then is not quite three and one-fourth times greater than Kentucky.

	Gross Tax Receipts.	Proportion.
New York	\$18,537,948 03	New York then, a state not quite $3\frac{1}{4}$ times larger than Kentucky, collects nearly 5 times as much revenue.
Kentucky	3,834,187 97	

	Aggregate Assessed Valuation, Realty and Personalty.	Proportion.
*New York	\$4,199,882,058	New York wealth more than $6\frac{1}{2}$ times as much as Kentucky.
*Kentucky	677,664,100	

	State Tax Rate on \$100.	Amount Derived from Direct Taxation.
New York	21 $\frac{8}{10}$	\$9,155,742 88
Kentucky	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,880,072 42

	Paid for Salaries and Expenses Public Departments excluding Asylums, Prisons, etc.	Proportion.
New York	\$3,127,889 04	New York, not quite $3\frac{1}{4}$ times larger, pays 11 times more for salaries, etc., than Kentucky.
Kentucky	296,427 29	

	State Aid to Schools.	Proportion.
New York	\$4,606,070 13	New York, being $3\frac{1}{4}$ times larger and $6\frac{1}{2}$ times wealthier, only pays $2\frac{1}{4}$ times more for schools than Kentucky.
Kentucky	2,062,233 55	

PER CAPITA COMPARISONS. AMOUNT PAID BY EACH INHABITANT UNITED STATES CENSUS OF 1890 AND COMPTROLLER'S REPORT 1894.

	For Direct Taxes.	For Schools.	For Salaries and Expenses Public Departments.
*New York	\$1 53	\$0 77	\$0 52
*Kentucky	1 55	1 11	16

SALARY LIST AND EXPENSES OF EACH PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Governor and department	\$ 36,164 99
Secretary of State's department	43,632 20

*New York raises nearly as much revenue by indirect as by direct taxation.
*Kentucky only half as much.

Comptroller's department	\$124,366	83
Treasurer's department	28,041	21
Attorney-General's department	41,550	71
State Engineer and Surveyor's department	38,596	94
Board of Claims' department	27,899	34
Board of Mediation and Arbitration	14,914	11
Factory Inspector	54,695	06
Bureau of Labor Statistics	36,978	73
Civil Service Commission	17,939	76
Department of Public Instruction	44,125	58
Regents University	31,643	10
State Library	46,465	69
State Museum Natural History	24,750	78
Board of Health	54,841	64
Commission in Lunacy	21,741	11
Public Buildings, services employes, supplies, etc	232,098	25
Mine Inspector	3,861	57
Shore Inspector	22,414	75
Board of Port Wardens	4,582	84
Quarantine	113,551	99
Pilot Commissioners	3,542	34
Commissioners of Fisheries	59,313	56
Game and Fish Protectors	27,400	96
Oyster Protector	1,984	10
Weather Bureau	5,700	94
Forest Commission	43,498	92

Department of Agriculture:

Distributed to county societies, institutes, etc.	\$126,806	31
Experimental station, etc.	46,280	76
Salaries, commissioner, assistants and expenses department	104,795	54
		277,882 61

National Guard:

Adjutant-General	\$ 52,562	47
Inspector-General	6,374	91
Ordnance Department	217,627	33
Paymaster-General	80,000	00
Inspector Rifle Practice	37,526	49
Judge Advocate General	1,720	04
Other departments expenses	373,842	14
		769,653 98
State assessors, same as state board of equalization in Ken- tucky	9,000	00
Banking department	31,981	30
Insurance department	118,357	44

Railroad commissioners	\$	53,631	10
Board electrical control (New York)		48,233	06
Electrical subway commission (Brooklyn)		12,595	38
Inspector gas meters		12,534	72

Judiciary:

Court of Appeals, salaries, expenses, etc.	\$129,397	97
Supreme Court, salaries, expenses, etc.	449,806	27
Miscellaneous reporter	8,517	21
		<u>587,721 45</u>
Total salaries and expenses	\$3,127,889	<u><u>04</u></u>

THE PLATFORM.

FIRST—The Democracy of Kentucky in convention assembled congratulate the country upon the repeal of the McKinley tariff law, and upon the evidences we have on every hand of returning prosperity, under the operations of reduced and equalized tariff taxation; and we denounce as fraught with danger and disaster the threat of our Republican adversaries to re-establish a protective tariff and to reinaugurate a policy of unequal taxation, which in connection with general misgovernment by the Republican party culminated in the business panic of 1893.

SECOND—The Democratic party, which has always stood for the separation of church and state, for the sake alike of civil and religious freedom, does not hesitate to condemn all efforts to create a distinction among citizens because of differences in faith as repugnant to an enlightened age and abhorrent to the instincts of American freemen.

THIRD—We reaffirm without qualification the principles and policies declared by the National Democratic Platform of 1892, and declare that our present National Democratic Administration is entitled to the thanks of the party for its honest, courageous and statesmanlike management of public affairs; and we express our undiminished confidence in the Democracy and patriotism of President Grover Cleveland and his distinguished co-adviser and Secretary, John G. Carlisle, of Kentucky.

FOURTH—When the Democratic party came into power in 1867 the bonded indebtedness of Kentucky was over \$4,600,000. The nominal value of the assets of the Sinking Fund was about \$8,000,000, made up in part of internal improvements that cost over and were carried at a valuation of \$4,800,000, but which yielded at that time no net revenue, and were worth in cash only about \$500,000, thus showing an actual deficit in the Sinking Fund as compared with our indebtedness of about \$900,000. Since 1867 the bonded indebtedness has been reduced to \$650,000, and the available assets of the Sinking Fund more than equal that sum.

We have increased the annual appropriation for support of our charitable institutions from \$250,000 in 1867 to \$500,000 in 1895, and while improving our judicial system by increasing the number of courts and the frequency of their terms, we have been compelled to increase our expenditures, one of the greatest items of which is the cost of criminal prosecutions, and a noticeable fact in connection with which is that the increase is greatest in districts controlled by Republican officials. We have, nevertheless, been able to decrease the current rate of taxation for general revenue purposes from twenty cents on the one hundred dollars of taxable property in 1867 to fifteen cents in 1895. The Democratic

majority have voluntarily increased the annual expenditures for the support of common schools from \$256,000 in 1867 to about \$2,000,000 in 1895, and by wisely providing separate schools for the two races are to-day giving to the children of the colored race opportunities for education they nowhere else enjoy.

In the face of unexampled difficulties the Democratic party has succeeded in wholly withdrawing convict labor from competition with free labor and in abolishing the practice inherited from the Republican party of leasing the convicts to parties interested solely in making profit out of their labor, and in adopting the modern and improved methods by which the state and its officers are made directly responsible for the management of our state prisons, and under which our penitentiary system has been and is being greatly improved.

During the twenty-eight years the people have intrusted the Democratic party with the control of the state government its administration has been characterized by the strictest economy and integrity, and in this regard we invite comparison with any Republican state government.

FIFTH—We express our confidence in the wisdom and honesty with which the present state administration has conducted the affairs of our state government.