

# ANNUAL STATEMENT

OF THE

## Finances of the City of Toledo.

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CITY AUDITOR'S OFFICE, TOLEDO, O., *January 1, 1875.*

*To the Honorable Common Council of the City of Toledo :*

GENTLEMEN:—In accordance with the laws and ordinances regulating the duties of City Auditors, I herewith transmit to your Honorable Body for your examination, the report of the Receipts and Expenditures of the City for the period embraced between March 1, 1874. and January 1, 1875.

An Ordinance, passed November 3, 1873, entitled, "An Ordinance to provide for the issuing of Orders to pay Claims, and for other purposes," made it my duty to issue Orders in such amounts as claimants might desire ; such orders to be protested, and to bear interest.

Under this Ordinance the duties devolving upon me increased to such an extent that, with the inadequate help furnished me, I was unable at the proper time to make a detailed Report for the fiscal year ending March 1, 1874.

Respectfully submitted,

OTHO KLEMM, *City Auditor*

This would have limited the issue for 1874 to \$34,000; the excess for that year is \$55,000.

I can conceive no public necessity requiring such violations of law, when the law itself provides that where the necessity exists for issuing more than two mills on the valuation, a vote of the people shall be taken upon it. There is a discrepancy between the sum received into the treasury of this Board during the year 1874 for the sale of bonds and the amount of bonds issued at the same time of \$6,000, which remains to be explained. In justice to them, as well as the public, I think their affairs should receive a searching investigation.

Since I have been the executive officer of this city, now nearly four years, this Board has made no report to the City Council, although for a portion of that time the law required it annually. As near as I can understand it, the present law is defective in this particular, as well as the vital one of not holding its officials accountable for exceeding their lawful powers.

## POLICE.

The force now consists of 36 men, a Captain, three Sergeants, and three Detectives. The Patrol Force has been increased during the past year by the addition of eight men and one Sergeant. Under the management of the Chief and officers, it has reached a high state of efficiency, and justly challenges the admiration of strangers and citizens.

The Police law creates a Board of Commissioners, consisting of one member from each Ward, now numbering eight. In the opinion of the members of the Board, this number is already too large, and its probable increase, by the necessity for creating more Wards to correspond with our enlarged territory, led to its reference to a Committee, who reported in favor of the repeal of the present law, and governing the Police by the Municipal Code. This report was adopted with singular unanimity, and a memorial was sent to the General Assembly in accordance with its decision. This memorial was presented in the Senate, but no action has yet been taken upon it. There are some evils attending the administration of police by a Board, and more particularly so when the number is so large as ours.

My own experience has led me to believe that the more of individual responsibility which is involved in such administration, the more efficient and certain is the correction of abuses which may exist in the force. The

recommendations of the Board upon the subject of secret service, and the setting apart of a fund for that purpose, were founded upon the practical experience of its value in this city, enabling us to detect and bring to justice nearly every burglar who has attempted to practice his crimes during the last winter. In justice to the officers and men, I must also say that it has been done at the expense of their hard-earned wages.

It will be seen that the police fund is now overdrawn \$9,199 83, and the expense for 1875 is estimated at \$49,199 83. The levy applicable for this purpose should amount to \$34,949 72, leaving a deficit, at the end of the year, of about \$23,350. Provisions will have to be made in the future levy to make up this deficiency. For further information and for interesting statistics I refer you to the report itself.

### **A WORK HOUSE BOARD.**

Has been organized, and provision is being made for the employment of criminals in temporary enclosures. I expect much good to result from the action of this Board, and bespeak for them your earnest co-operation, as also the House of Refuge and Correction, which that Board contemplate opening in May next.

### **WATER WORKS.**

From the report of this Board, it will be seen that the new Works are practically completed and in operation, though there are some miles of pipe yet to be laid in the Sixth Ward to afford them the advantages possessed by other parts of the city. We have over 40 miles of pipe distribution, and there is an urgent demand for its increase and extension to the new Additions, some of which are worthy of serious consideration. The appropriation of \$1,000,000 is or will be exhausted with the completion of the present contracts, and but little revenue can be expected from them, more than sufficient to maintain the cost of conducting the Works and paying their necessary expenses for the next two or three years. In the present condition of the finances of the city, I think it would be impracticable to make a further appropriation for additional pipe distribution. When parties are willing to be assessed for such a purpose, there would be no difficulty in providing the means. The question of pipe extension should be settled upon some definite basis or plan, so as to avoid annoy-