

No. 27, A.]

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CHAPTER 8.

AN ACT to create the county of "Iron."

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. All that portion of the county of Ashland included within the following boundaries, to-wit: Commencing at the mouth of the Montreal river, thence westerly along the south shore of Lake Superior to the northwest corner of township number forty-seven north, of range number one west; thence south, on the township line between ranges number one and two west, to the southwest corner of township number forty-four north, of range number one west; thence east, along the township line, to the northwest corner of township number forty-three north, of range number one east; thence south, along the township line, to the southwest corner of township number forty-three north, of range number one east; thence east along the township line to the southeast corner of township number forty-three north, of range number one east; thence south, along the township line, to the southwest corner of township number forty-one north, of range number two east; thence east, along the township line, to the southeast corner of township number forty-one north, of range number three east; thence north on the township line between ranges number three and four east, to the northeast corner of township number forty-four north, of range number three east; thence west, along township line, to the center of the Montreal river, and following center line of said river to the place of beginning, is hereby detached from the county of Ashland, and made and constituted a separate county, to be known and designated as the county of Iron.

Territory embraced.

SECTION 2. The county of Iron, with the boundaries prescribed in the foregoing section, is hereby created with all the rights, powers and privileges by law granted to and conferred upon other counties in this state. The county seat of said county of Iron, until otherwise determined

Powers: county seat; terms of court and notice of same.

by law, is hereby located and the same shall be at the village of Hurley, in said county, in township number forty-six north, of range number two east. Said county of Iron is attached to and made a part of the Fifteenth judicial circuit. There shall be held in said county of Iron two terms of the circuit court in each year, and until otherwise provided by law. Such terms of court shall be held at such times as the circuit judge thereof shall designate. The judge of said court shall immediately after the passage and publication of this act give public notice of the time of holding terms of such court, by causing a notice thereof to be published in some newspaper printed in said county of Iron, for at least six weeks prior to the three weeks immediately preceding the holding of the first term of said court.

County officers

SECTION 3. Within thirty days after this act shall take effect, the governor of this state shall appoint in and for the county of Iron the following, to-wit: A county judge, district attorney, clerk of the circuit court, county clerk, sheriff, register of deeds, county treasurer, county surveyor, superintendent of schools, and coroner, who shall each within twenty days after due notice of his appointment, respectively, qualify and enter upon the duties of his office, and hold the same until the first Monday of January next succeeding the first general election thereafter, and until his successor is elected and qualified, except the county judge, who shall hold his office until the first Monday of January, 1898. Such officers shall, for the above named term, receive the following salaries *per annum*: County clerk, one thousand dollars; county treasurer, one thousand dollars; county judge, two hundred dollars; county superintendent of schools, five hundred dollars; district attorney, six hundred dollars. All other officers shall receive as compensation the fees prescribed by law, and no other.

Salaries.

Bonds of officers.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the board of supervisors of the county of Iron, within forty days after the passage and publication of this act, to meet and fix the amount of bonds required to be given by each of said officers, except in cases where the amount of such bonds is now fixed by law.

Towns.

SECTION 5. The county of Iron shall, until otherwise ordered by the board of supervisors of

said county, consist of three towns, to be known respectively as the town of Vaughn, town of Saxon, and town of Knight. The town of Vaughn shall retain the territory now included in said town and also township number forty-three north, of range number two east, of township number forty-three north, of range number three east, township number forty-two north, of range number two east, township number forty-two north, of range number three east, township number forty-one north, of range number two east, and township number forty-one north, of range number three east. The town of Saxon shall include townships number forty-six north, of range one west, forty-six north, of range one east, and fractional townships number forty-seven north, of range number one west, and forty-seven north, of range number one east. All the remaining portion of said county of Iron shall be known as the town of Knight.

SECTION 6. The board of supervisors of the said county of Iron, shall, at its first meeting, transact all business necessary to perfect the complete organization of the county, and determine upon, and make suitable provisions for, a place for holding the circuit court at the time to be appointed therefor.

Board of supervisors, first meeting of.

SECTION 7. The said counties of Ashland and Iron shall be the exclusive owners of all the property, real and personal, of the said county of Ashland, as the same is now constituted, and the same shall be divided between the two said counties according to the value thereof, ascertained as hereinafter provided, upon the basis of the equalized valuation made by the board of supervisors of the said county of Ashland of all the real and personal property therein for the year 1892; each county taking of such property, or the value thereof, according to the proportion as fixed by the said equalized valuation of the said real and personal property in the territory comprised in each county, respectively, as herein established. The liabilities of the said county of Ashland shall be paid by each of said new counties upon the same basis fixed as aforesaid for dividing the assets of the said county of Ashland as now existing. The governor of the state of Wisconsin shall, within ninety days after the passage of this act, appoint three commissioners,

Property, how divided.

Liabilities, how paid.

Commissioners, how appointed.

one of whom shall be an expert accountant, whose duty it shall be to make a complete schedule of all the assets, real, personal or of any nature, of the said county of Ashland as now existing and fix the value of each item thereof. Said commissioners shall award to the said county of Iron all of said assets situated in the territory which by this act constitutes the county of Iron, or which are based upon any property in said territory according to the value they shall give to the same, and said commissioners shall award to the said county of Ashland as constituted by this act all of the said assets situated in the territory which by this act constitutes the county of Ashland, or which are based upon any property in said territory according to the value they shall give to the same. The said commissioners shall have power, and it is hereby made their duty to examine and determine the condition of the debits and credits between the several towns in the county of Ashland as now existing and the city of Ashland and the said county of Ashland as now existing, and to finally settle all accounts between said county of Ashland and said several towns and the city of Ashland. The condition of said several accounts as ascertained by said commissioners shall be reckoned in the liabilities or assets of said county in the settlement between the counties provided for by this act; provided, that said commissioners shall not extend their examination of said accounts between said towns and the city of Ashland to a date earlier than January 1, 1888, but they shall assume that up to that date the said accounts were settled between the county of Ashland and the several towns and cities therein. The said commissioners shall examine fully the accounts of all the officers of said county, beginning January 1, 1888, and extending over the entire period from that date to the time of the close of their duties under this act, and whatever shall be found due any of said officers shall be a portion of the liabilities of said county, and whatever is found due from said officers or either of them, shall be part of the assets of the county of Ashland. The said commissioners shall have the right of access to all the records, books and papers of every description in any office of said county of Ashland as now existing, or belonging to or in the custody of any

Award.

Powers and duties.

Examination of accounts.

Access to records, etc.

of the officers thereof, and it shall be the duty of every officer of said Ashland county to afford every facility to a complete and thorough investigation of every question or matter within the scope of their duties as provided by this act. The said commissioners, after they shall have ascertained all the assets and all the liabilities of said Ashland county as herein provided, shall determine the particular property which shall go to each of the counties created by this act, also the amount of indebtedness of the county of Ashland as now constituted to each of said towns and to the city of Ashland, if any such indebtedness is found to exist. Also the amount each of said towns and the city of Ashland respectively owes the said county, if any such indebtedness is found to exist, and also the amount of money which either of the counties created by this act shall owe the other in the final balancing of the assets and liabilities. The said commissioners shall determine the settlement between the two counties upon the basis of assessed valuation as provided by this act. Two of said commissioners shall receive five dollars per day each for their services as such commissioner, and the commissioner who is appointed on account of his skill and experience as an accountant shall receive ten dollars per day for each day's service actually rendered in the performance of his duties as commissioner.

Rights and liabilities to be determined.

Settlement.

Compensation.

SECTION 8. This act shall in no wise invalidate, or affect the collection of taxes or the return of lands for the non-payment of taxes assessed thereon for the year 1892, in said county of Ashland; provided, that within ten days after the appointment and qualification of the county treasurer of said county of Iron, as by this act provided, if the return of the delinquent list embracing the lands within the boundaries of the county of Iron have not been made within ten days after such returns, the treasurer of the county of Ashland shall pay over to the treasurer of said county of Iron all taxes, except the state taxes, collected and paid over to such treasurer by the treasurers of the several towns, or collected and paid over by the sheriff of Ashland county upon property situated within the boundaries of the said county of Iron for the year 1892, and shall make, certify and deliver to

Taxes; sale of lands.

the treasurer of the county of Iron a list of all lands situated within the boundaries of the county of Iron, returned delinquent for the non-payment of taxes for 1890, with the amounts of each delinquent's taxes assessed thereon, set opposite each description of said lands, and the treasurer of the county of Iron shall then proceed with the collection of such delinquent taxes, and the sale of such lands for the non-payment of taxes thereon, in the same manner and with the same effect as now provided by law, and such sale shall be legal whether made upon the third Tuesday of May next, or thereafter within one year; provided, the four weeks' notice of such sale, as provided by law, shall first be given.

Transcripts of records; to be prima facie evidence.

SECTION 9. The board of supervisors of the county of Iron shall have power, and it is hereby made its duty to procure as soon as may be, after the passage and publication of this act, from the register of deeds, county clerk, county treasurer, county judge, and clerk of the circuit court of the county of Ashland, at the expense of the said county of Iron, transcripts duly certified by the proper officers, of all papers, proceedings, records and books on file, or of record in said offices, in any manner affecting or relating to the title or right of possession of any lands situated in said county of Iron, and such transcripts or certified copies thereof, shall be *prima facie* evidence in all courts of the facts therein contained. The lien of all judgments which are now of effect on land in said county of Iron, shall continue in force the same as though this act had not taken effect.

Lien of judgments.

Tax for buildings limited.

SECTION 10. It shall not be lawful to levy a tax to exceed two thousand dollars *per annum*, for the next five years, in said county of Iron, for the purpose of building county buildings, except a county jail.

County apportioned.

SECTION 11. The said county of Iron shall constitute a part of the Eleventh senatorial district, and with the county of Ashland shall constitute an assembly district, and shall also be a part of the Ninth congressional district until the same shall be apportioned otherwise as provided by law.

SECTION 12. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved March 1, 1893.