

## **Tax Discounts & Exonerations 1785-1823, 1850-1865**

From the earliest times, county commissioners were empowered to grant discounts, commonly referred to as abatements, to individual tax payers. Based on what was considered “just and reasonable” the reasons for discounts vary, ranging from individuals who were overcharged to one individual who had a “broken thigh”. The most common discounts were granted to the poor and individuals who had left the township. Beginning in 1810 dog tax discounts are also included.

Tax discounts may contain the following information:

Name

Township

Reason for discount

Tax Year

Date of entry

Amount of discount

### **Notes**

Charged to land – The landholder/landowner is chargeable, not the person being taxed.

Unseated land – Land owned but not occupied or being utilized for any purpose and thus subject to a lower tax rate.

Chair Old/Carriage Broke – During the mid 1780s there was a luxury tax on “pleasure” carriages.

Insolvent – Bankrupt

A Fresh – Flood

Under age – A taxable had to be a male over the age of 21

Married – The taxable had recently married which would subject him to the inmate (married without property) tax which was lower than the freeman (single without property) tax.

In Gaol – In prison