

## Virginia Legislature.

From the Whig, Dec. 12.

## RELIEF OF THE BANKS.

The House of Delegates yesterday, after much discussion, concurred in the amendments of the Senate to the Bill for the temporary relief of the Banks, and the act now stands as follows:

An Act for the temporary relief of the Banks of this Commonwealth.

1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That so much of any act as may subject any Bank incorporated by the laws of this State to the forfeiture of its charter, for failing or refusing to pay its notes or other debts in specie, or to the payment of damages or interest higher than six per cent. per annum for such failure or refusal; or which may prohibit the receiving of the notes of such bank, in payment of the public taxes or debts, or the deposit of the public revenue, as heretofore, shall be, and the same is hereby suspended until the first day of March next; and if any bank shall have forfeited its charter by so failing or refusing to pay specie, the forfeiture thereby incurred shall be remitted; and the charter, with all the rights and powers conferred by it, except such portions as are hereby suspended, shall continue in full force and effect, until the date above mentioned, saving to all persons, corporations or bodies politic the right to recover, in any of the modes now provided by law, the amount of any note or other debt due from the banks, with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum: Provided, That the Banks of this Commonwealth in which the monies are on deposit shall pay the interest falling due in January next, upon public loans, in specie or its equivalent, if the public creditors require it, if there be so much in said banks to the credit of the Commonwealth: And provided, also, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed, as to prevent the Legislature from passing any act annulling or modifying the charters of the several banks which it might be competent to enact, if this act had never passed.

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

## MILITARY BOUNTY LANDS.

Mr. Southall referred to previous proceedings of the Legislature on the subject of an additional appropriation of Lands by Congress, for the satisfaction of military warrants, issued under the authority of Virginia to soldiers of the Revolution. The instructions and requests heretofore made, seem to have been ineffectual, but a repetition of them was the only method left of attaining the object. Mr. S. therefore offered the following resolution, which was passed by the House, with but one dissenting voice, and has since passed the Senate.

Resolved by the General Assembly, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our representatives requested, to use their best exertions to procure from Congress an additional appropriation of Land, to satisfy the outstanding Military Bounty Land Warrants, issued under authority of this Commonwealth to the officers and soldiers of the Revolution, or their legal Representatives.

Resolved, That the Governor of the Commonwealth be requested to transmit a copy of the above resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States.

MONDAY, Dec. 9th, 1839.

## JAMES RIVER AND KANAWHA COMPANY.

Mr. Dorman according to promise, called up Mr. Toler's resolution requiring the James River and Kanawha Company to make no further contracts for the prosecution of that work under present circumstances, and instructing the proxy of the State to vote in the general meetings of the stockholders against entering into any new contracts to be paid in the scrip of the company until the current price of the scrip shall be at par.

A considerable debate ensued upon the question of the adoption of the resolution, which, from the press of news and other matter upon our columns, we are prohibited from presenting an abstract of. The resolution was supported by Messrs. Toler, May and Smith of L. W., and opposed by Messrs. Dorman, Venable, Robertson, Bayly, and Gregory.

Mr. Dorman called the ayes and noes upon the question of adoption, which were ordered, and the question being put, was decided in the negative, as follows:

Ayes.—Messrs. Burwell of B., Mitchell, Meredith, Toler, Fox, Coleman, Cardwell, Broadus, Roane, Powell, Howell, Butts, Clarke of H., White, Smith of L. W., Fontaine, Ramsey, Orgain, Banks, Taylor of M. & M., Baskerville, Goode, Fitzgerald, Hilditch, May, Heath, Ratcliffe, Smith of Rockingham, Quillen, Ridley, Clarke of S., and Prince.—32.

Noes.—Messrs. Gilmer, (Speaker,) Bayly, Cropper, Southall, Carpenter, Wood, McCue, Stuart, Lockridge, Myers of B., Hunter, Hannah, Jackson of B. & L., McMillan, Kyle, Flood, Thornburg, Corbin, Cox, Burwell of C. & W., Wilson, Whitworth, Crawford, Marshall, Scott of F., Alderson, Payne, Hale, Baker, Byrd, King, Cardon of G., Taylor of H., Gibson, Allen of H., Seymour, Lee, Armstrong, McRea, Hanlet, Gregory, Worthington, Kennedy, Reynolds, Taylor of K. G., Taylor of L. & R., Ewing, Lawson, Beard, Harrison, Smith of M. & J., Clayton, Evans, Chapman, Wade of M. & P., Myers of Morgan, Massie, Allen of N. B., Watts, Yerby, Hudnell, McConnell, Aleshire, Staples, Hiner, Tunstall, Keen, Tallman, Carroll of Preston, Venable, Roberts, Sturm, Walden, Robertson, Snyder, Leyburn, Dorman, Shipman, Smith of Russell, Conn, Bare, Griever, Crutchfield, Fitzhugh, Spotswood, Stephenson, Goodson, Walker, Jackson of Wood, Cabell, and Stanger.—91.

## GENERAL STATE OF THE BANK OF VIRGINIA.

Reported to the Legislature.

Loans outstanding,	\$5,664,374 80
Specie on hand,	\$641,241 19
Specie on special deposits in Philadelphia,	50,000 00
Government drafts payable in coin,	10,555 00
Outstanding bills,	701,796 19
Notes of other Banks in the State,	116,918 20
Notes of other Banks out of the State,	61,867 00
	178,785 29

Balances due from other Banks	167,036 29
Stocks	676,331 50
Real Estate	326,642 41
	\$7,733,255 83
Capital Stock originally paid in	3,240,000 00
Do. recently subscribed by the State	325,000 00
Do. subscribed by individuals	72,400 00
	3,637,400 00
Notes in circulation	2,513,412 50
Surplus Fund, for the extinguishment of bad debts prior to June 3d, 1839, and applicable as profits to old shareholders, after deducting \$260,000 of debt reported to be bad	222,318 47
Discounts and profits received since 3d, June, 1839	143,258 55
Balance due to the other Banks	292,031 86
Deposits	923,804 45
	\$7,733,255 83

"By comparing the above statement with that rendered on the 1st January last, it will be perceived—

"That although the capital stock of the Bank has been increased \$397,400, the outstanding debt has been reduced \$1,056,836 92.

"That the notes in circulation have been reduced \$843,610, whilst the specie and funds available as specie remain \$773,875 11, being in the proportion of \$31 of circulation to \$1 of coin.

"The item of stocks which has been increased since the last statement, \$74,631 56, consists of \$500,000 subscribed to the James River and Kanawha Company; \$145,000 in stocks of the State of Virginia; and other stocks amounting to \$31,331 55; all of which, except the first item, may be regarded as stated at their reasonable value.

"Fully two-thirds of the amount of real estate consists of banking houses at cost; the remaining one-third is considered not much, if at all, over-estimated in value; but it is impossible to say what any part would produce, as the value is, of course, regulated by circumstances.

"Returns of the denominations in circulation, not having been fully made by the Departments, the precise number of each cannot now be ascertained; but it is believed information will be obtained and furnished in season.

"The last dividend of profits declared, being at the rate of 5 per cent. upon 3,240,000, amounted to 162,000.

"The amount in transactions in exchange, and the amount of interest and exchange received thereon, will be reported from the departments at the close of the year, when a detailed statement thereof will be prepared, and presented, it is hoped, in season.

"The customary time of rendering statements from the several departments of the Bank, as to the condition of the outstanding debt, is at the close of the year, when the profits are divided: full returns will then be made, and a detailed statement prepared and rendered; but no information has been received to induce a belief that any material amount of bad debt exists, further than the amount above deducted from the surplus fund.

"At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Virginia, on the 3d December, 1839, the foregoing statement and report being examined, Ordered, That the same be certified as correct.

JOHN BROCKENBROUGH, Pres't.

## State of the Farmers' Bank, including the Branches, on Monday, the 2d December, 1839.

Debt outstanding—	
Inland bills, 1,212,757 85	
Bills discounted, bonds, and all other debts, &c.,	3,782,594 07—\$4,995,351 92
Foreign bills,	6,936 86
Farmers' Bank stock, 49 shares,	4,900 00
Specie,	531,541 83
Notes of other Banks,	207,528 53
Due from other Banks,	71,033 37
Real Estate,	199,312 86
	\$6,016,605 37

## Capital Stock—

Old stock, 2,000,000 00	
New stock, instalments and interest,	546,470 91—\$2,596,470 91
Notes in Circulation,	2,132,523 50
Deposite money, Commonwealth, and others,	739,237 99
Contingent Fund,	434,869 44
Profit and loss of the Institution—six months,	113,503 53
	\$6,016,605 37

## FROM TEXAS.

The Columbia, Capt. Windle, arrived at N. Orleans on the 26th ultimo, bringing files of Houston Journals to the 21st inclusive; and Gesteon papers of the 21st. Not a word is said in any of these of the rumored capture of Matamoros by an allied army of Texans and Federalists. If such has really been the case, the intelligence had not reached either of the places mentioned by the 21st inst.

Congress had assembled. The attendance was prompt and general. The President's Message was submitted on the 12th. It is highly praised by the Gazette.

The Houston Star, of the 19th, says:—

"There is a rumor abroad that a manufactory has lately been established in our city, for the purpose of striking off illegal claims to head rights. It is said that several certificates, scarcely with the ink from the pen of the actors in this nefarious matter yet dry, have been put into circulation. They purport to have been issued by the board of San Augustine county."

The crops of Texas are yielding very finely. On a plantation, with only twenty-five hands, this year, three hundred bales of cotton were raised. Emigrants were pouring in vast numbers, and the wild lands were rapidly being filled up with families and settlers, of a class and character that will give respectability and permanence to the Republic.

What's in the Wind?—The Western Statesman, published at Marshall, Calhoun county, Michigan, says: "The Indians in Western Michigan disappeared some six or eight weeks since, and upon inquiry, we learn that they are and always have been dissatisfied with some of the treaties made by the general government respecting their reservations—that they will yet have them—that all the warriors have taken their rifles and gone to Canada. Can our editorial brethren on the frontier give us any light upon the subject?"

FOR THE STAUNTON SPECTATOR.

The Back Creek and Valley Temperance Society in Bath County, met at Rehoboth Church on the 1st day of December 1839. The meeting was opened by the Rev. W. J. Rider, followed by Mr. Timothy Holcomb and Mr. John Pullin, after which the following resolutions were read by the secretary:

Resolved, That in our opinion, it is highly important to our cause that an able and faithful agent, should be procured if possible, to lecture in this state on the subject of temperance, and we earnestly wish all Temperance Societies in the State, of our opinion, to make the same known without delay, in order that an agent may be procured as soon as possible.

Resolved, That we believe a repeal of the license laws necessary to the cause of morality and virtue, and that our Legislature ought to be petitioned to that effect. Adopted unanimously.

A resolution was then read on the subject of appointing a committee to prepare a petition for signatures, and to be presented to the next Legislature of Virginia, praying a repeal of the laws licensing the sale of spirituous liquors. After some discussion on the subject a petition was presented and read, and after some further discussion another was presented and adopted.

## PETITION

To the Honorable General Assembly of Virginia.

The undersigned citizens of this Commonwealth, respectfully solicit the attention of your honorable body to what we consider the pernicious tendency of those laws by which the sale of intoxicating drinks is legalized and licensed.

Those laws were originally dictated by a benevolent wish to restrict the sale and use of such drinks; they were intended to keep the means of intoxication away from the drunkard, but leaving them entirely open to sober men. Were the system perfectly successful, we should deem it highly objectionable, as tending to debase respectable citizens into drunkards. But it is a matter of perfect notoriety that it imposes no practical restraint whatever upon any person. Any man in the State, ordinarily, can find the means of intoxication just when he pleases, so that the same reason which dictated the enactment of those laws, calls loudly for their repeal and the entire prohibition of the traffic.

Intoxicating liquors are the cause of 4-5ths all the crimes against which the labors and legislation of your honorable body are directed; they are the chief cause of poverty, wretchedness and misery in our land. We would then respectfully ask, why not prohibit this fruitful source of crime, insanity, disease and death?

Thousands of the most able physicians in our own country and Europe, have declared that such drinks are never needed for persons in health, and for other uses, a much better and safer provision can be made which shall not be open to these objections. It is ascertained by actual investigation that above two-thirds of the taxes paid by the citizens of the State of New York accrues in consequence of this traffic, and we have no reason to doubt that the same is true in this State; we therefore ask the intervention of your honorable body to relieve us at once of the burden, by removing the cause in which it originates. We cannot but ask, is it just that the sober and industrious part of the community shall be heavily taxed to support the poor made by this fruitful source of poverty and ruin? Is it right to punish crimes and license the cause that produces them? Is it right to spread snares and punish men for falling in them?

In conclusion we would say, if the laws will continue to permit sinks of vice, poverty, and crime, to stand open night and day, the same laws must continue to provide poor houses, prisons, gallows and graves, to receive their victims. Can it be necessary to keep up this state of things forever? Does the "public good" require that in these United States fifty thousand men shall spend their whole time in manufacturing and selling a deadly poison, both to the body and soul, and that these men shall destroy 25 million bushels of grain yearly, when the poor are suffering for bread? And is it necessary that thirty thousand of our fellow-citizens shall annually go down to the Drunkard's grave, leaving their wives widows and their children orphans? Does the public good require such a sacrifice? Is there no remedy? We would respectfully repeat the question—is there no remedy? Has law nothing to do with humanity? Must we see our parents destroyed, our families ruined, and our children driven to unutterable despair? Must we allow that sanctions this state of misery, wretchedness and ruin remain so forever? Is there no remedy? There is a remedy. Repeal the license laws and in their stead provide suitable penal enactments against the further sale and distribution of the poison.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be forwarded to the Editor of the Staunton Spectator for publication in the same.

J. H. RUCKMAN, Sec'y.

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NEW COUNTERFEIT.—Frederick County Bank, Frederick, Md.—10's altered from 1's. The genuine 1's have for a Vignette—figure of a female kneeling, with a sickle in one hand and a sheaf of wheat in the other. The spurious 10's have the same and can be by a slight examination be easily detected.

## WESTERN LUNATIC ASYLUM.

In the last "Staunton Spectator," we find some extracts from the annual Report of the Physician Dr. F. T. Stribling, which we have read with the highest degree of satisfaction, and which we would cheerfully transfer to our columns, did we not expect to be able at a future day to publish the report entire. There is no institution which more richly deserves the fostering care and attention of the Legislature, and we hope they will make such appropriations as will diffuse its benefits more widely.—Valley Star.

POST MASTER FRANKLIN.—In 1754, Benjamin Franklin was post-master general, with permission to make 6000 pounds continental money, if he could, out of the whole post-office department in America. The very next year he gave the astounding notice that the mail, which had before run once a fortnight to New England, would start once a week the year round, whereby answers might be obtained to letters between Philadelphia and Boston in three weeks, which before had required six weeks. In 1774 it was announced in all the papers of the colony, that "John Perkins engages to ride post, to carry the mail once a week between Philadelphia and Baltimore, and will take along or bring back led horses, or any parcel." When a post-rider proposed starting, notice was given of his intention by advertisement, also by the town crier, for several days in advance. In 1790, the number of post offices had increased through the country to seventy-five.

THE FEDERALISTS IN MEXICO.—According to files of Havana papers, received at New Orleans by the schooner Creole, the Mexican Federalists have again unfurled their banner, and are concentrating their forces with a rapidity and success which has created the greatest consternation to the Central Government. The N. O. Bulletin says:—"Their first object, the Diario del Gobierno of Mexico states, is to re-capture Tampico, which city it represents as 'ripe for revolt, and full of the most daring stratagems.'" At the latest dates the Federal forces mustered about fifteen hundred strong, and were receiving recruits in great numbers. But whether they will be able to attain their object seems rather problematical, as Bustamante has taken the alarm and ordered troops and ammunition in abundance. Every vulnerable point in the city is doubly guarded, and the least demonstration in favor of Federalism, is punished with the severity of a Nero."

The New York Canal was again open on the 10th, and the arrivals of produce at the city of New York were large.

An aged widow woman named Keller, who resided near the Dry Branch gap, fell in the fire on Saturday last, and was burnt to death.

Married, On Thursday last, by the Rev. Mr. Glessbrenner, Mr. John Messcup to Miss Indiana Greener.

## OBITUARY.

DIED, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on the 20th ult., of fever, Col. Wm. S. Foster, Lt. Col. of the 4th regiment U. S. Infantry. The death of this gallant officer will be deeply regretted by his brothers in arms. When comparatively a youth, his gallant conduct in defence of Fort Erie, in August, 1814, was rewarded by the brevet commission of major, and latterly, at the head of his regiment, his bravery and good conduct at the battle of the Okechobee, in Florida, gained for him the brevet of colonel. He has left a widow and children.

## NEW STORE.

THE subscriber having purchased the mercantile concern of Mr. George Geiger, and being desirous of disposing of his Stock by spring as near as can be—would respectfully ask the calls of his town and country friends and the public generally, feeling satisfied that his prices and the quality of his goods cannot fail to please. His stock consist of the general variety of

Dry Goods, Hardware, Queensware and Groceries, Boots and Shoes, Spanish Sole Leather, &c.

These goods are nearly all new and desirable, and bought this fall, and will be sold at reduced prices for cash, or exchanged for country produce, or sold on the usual time, to those to whom I have heretofore sold, and have not failed to pay at their appointed times.

ROBERT G. BICKLE.

Staunton, Dec. 19, 1839.

## LEBANON HOTEL.

THE subscriber respectfully informs the public that he has taken this stand lately occupied by Wm. H. Garber, on the Turnpike road leading from Harrisonburg to the Warm Springs, also on the stage road from Staunton, where he will accommodate to the best of his ability all who may call upon him. He earnestly solicits a share of the public patronage.

Drovers and Wagoners supplied with grain, &c. on reasonable terms.

Dec. 19. Rockingham Register, Winchester Virginian, and Kanawha Banner insert 3 times and forward accounts to this office.

## LAST NOTICE.

THOSE indebted to the late firm of CRAIG & MACPAIN, are requested to make payment on or before the 1st of January, as longer indulgence cannot be given.

Dec. 19, 1839. WM. CRAIG.

## Virginia Scrivener

For sale at this office. Merchants supplied on commission, on liberal terms.

Dec. 19.

Dec. 19.

Dec. 19.

Dec. 19.

Dec. 19.

## Virginia Institution For the Education of the Deaf and Dumb, and of the Blind.

STAUNTON, Dec. 12, 1839.

THE undersigned, will until the 10th day of January next, receive sealed proposals, for furnishing timbers agreeable to the annexed Schedule. The timbers have been numbered from 1 to 8, any person putting in a proposal, will put in for an entire number, and may propose for as many numbers as he pleases; but for no fraction of a number.

An agent will be appointed to receive, number and measure the timbers as delivered, and he will receive none that is not sound and in every respect suitable for the purpose required. Cash will be paid on the delivery of each number complete, on the site of the building near Staunton.—Proposals may be handed to either of the undersigned.

ALEXR. H. H. STUART, NICHES. C. KINNEY, FRANCIS T. STRIBLING, JAMES POINTS.

Executive Committee.

## SCHEDULE.

No. 1.

2 Girders	33 feet long	9 by 10 inches
32 Joists	16	3 by 10 "
11	12	3 by 10 "
28	13	3 by 10 "

1000 ft. of 1 1/2 inch flooring plank good quality.

No. 2.

2 Girders	33 feet long	9 by 11 inches
32 Joists	16	3 by 11 "
11	12	3 by 11 "
28	13	3 by 11 "

1000 ft. of 1 1/2 inch flooring plank good quality.

No. 3.

2 Girders	33 feet long	9 by 11 inches
32 Joist	16 feet long	3 by 11 "
11 do.	12	3 by 11 "
28 do.	13	3 by 11 "

1000 ft. of 1 1/2 inch flooring plank good quality.

No. 4.

3 tie beams	34 feet long	6 by 10 inches
3 king posts	10	6 by 9 "
6 braces	10	4 by 6 "
2 perkins	32	4 by 10 "
40 rafters	18	3 by 8 "
32 Joists	16	2 1/2 by 8 "
11	12	2 1/2 by 8 "

1000 ft. of 1 1/2 in. flooring plank good quality.

No. 5.

2 trimmers	24 feet long	3 by 10 inches
24 Joist	21	2 1/2 by 10 "
12	14	2 1/2 by 10 "
28	13	2 1/2 by 10 "

3000 ft. of 1 1/2 in. flooring plank good quality.

1000 1 1/2 yellow pine plank.

No. 6.

29 Joists	14 feet long	2 1/2 by 10 inches
8 Joists	12	3 by 8 inches
10 do	24	3