

REPORT

Of the Joint Committee on Banks. The Joint Committee on Banks, directed by the duties confided to them, proceeded to the city of Lexington, and examined the Northern Bank of Kentucky, and the Lexington Branch of the Bank of Kentucky, and, on their return, they examined the Frankfort Branch of the Bank of Kentucky. They then proceeded to the city of Louisville, and examined the Bank of Kentucky, the Bank of Louisville, the Louisville Branch of the Northern Bank, the Louisville Savings Institution, and the Mechanics' Savings Institution of Louisville.

whether preparation had been made for the investigation of the committee by reducing the business and circulation, or whether the business and circulation had been reduced from any other cause. The aggregate business and circulation of the Banks, it will be seen, had been diminished from the end of January, to the latter part of May, when the suspension of specie payments took place.

The committee inquired and ascertained that the Banks made no distinction, and gave no preference to any particular branch of agriculture, manufacture, or commerce. That all shared alike where the security was equally good; but that no loans were made to farmers, or shavers, or for investments in lands.

The committee ascertained that the Bank of Kentucky had availed herself of the law passed at the called session of Congress, and paid the public deposits at interest, payable at three months, in the debt to the Bank of the United States as also on interest, at the rate of 5 per cent., and payable in three instalments; the first due on the 10th of March next, and the residue in one and two years thereafter.

The committee are of opinion, that it would create great embarrassment and depression the price of property, to force the Banks to resume before the expiration of the terms of their bills; the Banks in the eastern cities, and those of the surrounding States, shall generally resume; therefore, to do so, they must call in their debts and cease discounting; and when the paper circulation of the Banks shall be withdrawn there will be nothing left of the quantity of the value of property, and it must sink to the lowest point of depression.

The comparative statement of the indebtedness of the directors, and an equal number of the other highest customers of each Bank and Branch, affords, satisfactory evidence, that they are not administered on selfish principles.

The committee are of opinion, that the loans and accommodations should be made to as large a number of good customers as practicable, and that some of the accounts of some of the Banks are larger than small sums, which would not have been given, had the only policy for them, in the commercial embarrassments, and the return of the protested bills, which they were made.

The committee have laid these reports before the Legislature, with a view of exhibiting the action and profits of Banks that do not issue paper.

The committee are not aware that they have been asked to do any thing necessary to a full understanding of the condition, means, and liabilities, of the Banks, or of their management and operation since the last session of the Legislature.

They accompany this report with a bill in accordance with their recommendation.

Which, is respectively submitted, JAMES GUTHRIE, Committee of A. K. WOOLLY, of the Senate.

D. TRIMBLE, Committee of S. S. NICHOLAS, of the House of C. M. CLAY, HIRAM McLEROY, Representatives.

PAUSE! DISCOVERY.—It will be remembered that we sometime since gave the particulars of a most extraordinary attempt to poison the whole family of Mr. Otto of New York. A reward of a thousand dollars was subsequently offered for the discovery of the offender or offenders.

This reward, as you have seen from the New York Sun, had the desired effect of drawing forth a most worthy individual, who appeared and sent the poisonous fluid, and who proves to be the wife of an eminent physician of that city.





