

STATEMENT of the situation of the Bank of Kentucky, December 31, 1834.

Dr.		
Due to other banks,		
Notes issued,		\$7,967 88
Surplus profits,		31,543 39
Current profits,		221,380 01
Stock,		6,537 84
Due to individuals,		321,104 00
		65,436 78
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		\$653,969 90
CR.		
Current expenses,		
Due from other banks,		\$1,230 62
Real estate,		7,401 70
Due from individuals,		195,172 12
Defalcation at branches,		403,346 86
Cash on hand:		20,678 67
Silver,		
Notes of specie banks,	\$2,284 43	
Notes of Bank of Commonwealth,	14,513 80	
Notes of uncurrent banks,	5,867 95	
Notes of Bank of Kentucky,	12 00	
	461 75	
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		23,139 93
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		\$653,969 90

Attest:

H. BLANTON, Clerk.

Annual report from the Bank of the Commonwealth.

BANK OF THE COMMONWEALTH,

January 5, 1835.

SIR: I have the honor to communicate, herewith, a statement exhibiting the situation of this institution, on the 30th of November, 1834. In making this communication to the Legislature, I deem it my duty to mention some of the causes that have operated to obstruct the collections during the last year, as, in the absence of some explanation, a want of fidelity on the part of those concerned might be inferred.

The bank had gone on in successful operation for more than ten years, before it seems to have entered into the minds of any of its debtors that they were not legally as well as morally bound to refund and pay back the money which they had borrowed from it. But when the bank could extend no further favors, and was seeking a return of those already bestowed, the alternative was taken of cancelling the obligation by an appeal to the courts rather than with dollars and cents. The circuit court at first, without an exception, decided in favor of the bank, and of the power of the Legislature to create such a corporation, and they have, in every instance, been sustained by the supreme court of the State. Nothing is easier than for men to consent to that which their interest dictates they should believe; and under the influence of this principle, a combination was soon formed, by which all the questions involved were taken up to the Supreme Court of the United States, and argued, though not decided at the last term, in consequence, as it is understood, of the absence of two of the judges, and a difference of opinion among the others, which resulted in an order for a re-argument of the cause at the

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UDLEY, President.

next term, before a full court. In the mean time, it has been given out in prophetic letters and speeches, as well as *published opinions*, that the decision of the Supreme Court would be adverse; that the bank must go down, and, with regard to its debtors, a little jubilee was nigh at hand. During this time, the bank has endeavored to pursue the even tenor of its way; and where payment has been withheld, to ask of the constituted authorities of the country that which is due to the most humble citizen—impartial justice, and nothing more. It has been decided, in some cases, that the circuit courts were not bound by the decisions of the appellate court, because their reasons were not given *in extenso*; whilst in other sections, where it was supposed the courts would decide in favor of the bank, the causes have been removed from place to place by changes of venue; and finally some have been continued to await the decision of the Supreme Court of the nation! These, with other causes of a kindred character, have had the effect to paralyze, to a great extent, the efforts that have been made to coerce payments, particularly of the larger debts, and consequently to diminish the profits of the last year's business.

The collections, however, during the year ending 30th November, 1834, have exceeded the sum of \$140,000; leaving a sum now due the bank, in good debts and real estate, over and above the sum necessary to redeem the notes in circulation, of about \$300,000.

For the purpose of curtailing the expenses as rapidly as possible, the board of directors, early in last year, adopted a resolution which took effect on the 1st day of July, reducing the aggregate compensation to the agents, from the sum of \$4,900 to the sum of \$3,300; the office of second clerk was abolished at the same time, and the compensation to the directors was also reduced so as not to exceed \$25 per annum to each member of the board. By a subsequent regulation, commencing with the current year, the number of agents has been reduced to four, and their annual compensation to the gross sum of \$2,300.

Pursuant to the provisions of the 11th section of "An act to improve the navigation of Big Sandy river," approved 22d February, 1834, the sum of \$2,791 51 of solvent debts due the bank has been transferred to the commissioners for that purpose.

Of the sum of \$70,261 52 charged to the treasurer as overdrafts, the sum of \$33,212 18 has been paid in par funds, in aid of works of internal improvement, and will be charged to the account of stock. The sum of \$1,618 23, being the balance of an appropriation of \$4,000 for the improvement of Cumberland river, has also been paid during the past year.

In obedience to a resolution of the General Assembly, approved 24th February, 1834, the sum of \$100,000 of the notes of the bank has been cancelled by burning, leaving only an equal sum now in existence, of almost \$3,000,000 originally issued; \$43,516 68 of which are in the vaults of the bank; and the entire amount may confidently be expected to be cancelled during the present year.

Very respectfully, sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. WINGATE, *President.*

HON. CHARLES A. WICKLIFFE,
Speaker House of Representatives.

A STATEMENT of the situation of the Bank of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, on the 30th day of November, 1834.

Dr.	
To amount of stock,	\$471,319 26
To amount of notes payable,	100,000 00
To amount of discounts,	14,290 39
To amount due individual depositors,	7,785 12
To amount due literary fund,	140,917 44
To amount due William D. Barrett, late cashier,	43 18
To amount due other banks,	180 62
	\$734,536 01
Cr.	
By amount of notes under discount,	-\$63,220 87
By amount of notes in suit,	- 394,944 44
By amount due from the Bank of Kentucky,	\$458,165 31
By amount of real estate,	7,956 00
By amount of general expenses,	35,874 08
By amount due from treasurer,	11,838 38
By amount of profit and loss,	70,261 32
By amount due from delinquent cashiers,	50,932 92
By amount due from delinquent attorneys,	35,394 35
By amount due from A. Waggener's administrators,	3,055 58
By amount due from William Field, sheriff Jefferson county,	162 10
By amount due from Farmers' Bank of Harrodsburg,	50 00
By amount due from Kentucky Exporting Company,	1,671 94
By amount due for individual tickets,	507 00
By amount paid appropriation to Cumberland river,	708 63
By amount of cash on hand, viz:	4,000 00
In notes of Eastern banks and Bank United States,	\$10,441 72
In notes of the Bank of the Commonwealth of Kentucky,	- 43,516 68
	53,958 40
	\$734,536 01

For the purpose of exhibiting a more concise view of what may yet be realized from the bank, throwing out of view the accounts of stock, literary fund, and the amount due from the treasurer, the following estimate is subjoined.

Liabilities.	
Notes in circulation,	\$56,483 32
Estimated loss on real estate,	-
Estimated loss by bad and doubtful debts,	- \$14,600 00
	- 173,601 83
Due to individual depositors,	188,201 83
Due William D. Barrett, late cashier,	7,785 12
Due other banks,	43 18
	180 62
	\$252,694 07
	301,292 64
	\$553,986 71
Means.	
Notes under discount and in suit,	\$458,165 31
Real estate,	35,874 08
Due from Bank of Kentucky,	7,956 00
Due from delinquent cashiers,	35,394 35
Due from delinquent attorneys,	3,267 68
Due from independent banks, &c.	2,887 57
Specie funds on hand,	10,441 72
	\$553,986 71

EDMUND H. TAYLOR, Cashier.

me, it has been given out in published opinions, that the diverse; that the bank must a little jubilee was nigh at favored to pursue the even been withheld, to ask of the high is due to the most humor. It has been decided, not bound by the decisions were not given in extenso; used the courts would decide removed from place to place ive been continued to await nation! These, with other effect to paralyze, to a great coerce payments, particularly iminish the profits of the last year ending 30th November, ; leaving a sum now due the and above the sum necessary t \$300,000. ses as rapidly as possible, the opted a resolution which took e aggregate compensation to e sum of \$3,300; the office of ime, and the compensation to to exceed \$25 per annum to quent regulation, commencing nts has been reduced to four, s sum of \$2,200. section of "An act to improve oved 22d February, 1834, the he bank has been transferred o the treasurer as overdrafts, par funds, in aid of works of l to the account of stock. The an appropriation of \$4,000 for has also been paid during the neral Assembly, approved 24th of the notes of the bank has an equal sum now in exist- issued; \$43,516 68 of which entire amount may confidently resent year. sir, lient servant, H. WINGATE, President.

