

the State, the propriety and expediency of sending on their petitions as rapidly as possible, either for or against the measure.

Which was read and laid on the table.

Mr. Key submitted the following:

Whereas, the surplus revenue which was deposited by the General Government with this State, was deposited by the State in the several banks, and the interest of it annually appropriated to the several counties as a school fund. By the act of 1839, ch. 33, this surplus was directed to be applied to the payment of the interest on the public debt, and the capitation tax on passengers on the Washington branch of the Baltimore and Ohio rail road was appropriated in lieu of the interest on the surplus revenue to the several counties as a school fund; and whereas, by this arrangement the interest on the public debt for the year 1840 was paid; and whereas, on the first day of April 1841, there was due for interest on the public debt \$150,000, (see Treasurer's report 1840,) and to meet this demand on the Treasury, the Legislature at December session 1840, by resolution No. 14, authorised the Commissioner of Loans to borrow \$150,000 for twelve months, on a pledge of so much of the bank stock of the State as might be necessary.

And whereas, at the same session of 1840, the committee of Ways and Means reported the tax bill, which did not pass before the 10th of March 1841, the day fixed by the Constitution for the adjournment of the Legislature, and there was at the request of the Legislature, a convocation of an extra session of the Legislature, to be holden in April 1841; at which extra session the tax bill did pass,—but as the assessment and tax authorised by this act could not be made and collected by the first of July of the same year, when there was another quarterly payment of interest on the public debt due, the said Legislature passed resolution No. 3, authorising the Commissioner of Loans to borrow \$500,000 for the use of the State for twelve months, and by the *same resolution* directed that this loan should be paid out of the proceeds of the taxes levied, or authorised to be levied by the act of extra session 1841.

And whereas, in pursuance of these resolutions the Commissioner of Loans borrowed the sum of about \$400,000, which enabled the Treasurer to pay the interest due on the first days of July and October 1841.

And whereas, out of the proceeds of the tax as directed by resolution No. 3, of extra session 1841, the Treasurer by the first of December 1842, had paid this money so borrowed from the banks with the exception of \$128,000; and whereas, from the first of December 1842 to the present time, the Treasurer has received additional taxes to an amount equal to about \$76,230 06, which he has paid to the banks, leaving a balance due them of little more than \$50,000.

And whereas, the act of 1839, ch. 33, as before stated, applies the surplus revenue to the payment of the interest on the public