

and that in the following month of October, the Millington Bank, one of the institutions which had issued one of the certificates, purporting to represent so much specie, *failed*, causing great loss and suffering to all who had trusted in its solvency or its credit.— By the testimony, it will also appear that William Weed, who was the principal agent in putting in motion the Farmers and Millers bank, was the president of the famous Millington institution, the failure of which caused the most wide spread ruin and distress, and that he forwarded to the bank in Hagerstown, locks and other articles of furniture to enable it to go into operation. It must be apparent to every one that the Farmers and Millers Bank, was in its creation the mere offspring of the Millington concern, and that it was forced into existence by the most base and fraudulent pretences—and that it has maintained an existence by the extraordinary exertions and ingenuity of J. T. Guthrie, who now stands indicted in Washington county court, for embezzlement of the funds of the bank. It is unnecessary however for the committee to say one word about Guthrie, the testimony of witnesses of undoubted and unimpeachable integrity, fully prove his utter destitution of character; yet notwithstanding his numerous derelictions of duty and want of integrity, we find him the master spirit in the bank, managing, indeed, its whole machinery. It is a deep reflection upon the honor of the State that such men as Guthrie and the Messrs. Weed, should be permitted to control the affairs of any of her incorporated institutions. It will be observed that the committee, as an act of comity to the bank, permitted Guthrie to appear before them as a witness. By his statement, it will be seen that he contradicts several witnesses. It is due to the several gentlemen whose integrity he impugns, to say that the committee make some allowance for Mr. Guthrie, and that they place in their testimony the most implicit faith and credence.

It must be manifest to every one that Weed was fully aware of the near approach of the failure of the Millington bank, and availed himself of its then existence, to have issued the certificate mentioned in General Williams' testimony, to enable him, with the assistance of others of similar morals, to put in operation, in another part of the State, another institution, which would enable them to plunder the people in its neighborhood, as they had robbed those in the vicinity of Millington. By the device of these certificates, the bank was put in operation, and as the testimony fully discloses, continued to carry on business by all kinds of tricks and mal-practices.

It appears from the testimony of William V. Heard, formerly teller of the bank, that the return made to the Treasurer in January, 1842, was made upon the faith of certain specie and notes, amounting to upwards of thirteen thousand dollars, placed by A. J. Jones, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in the Farmers and Millers Bank of Hagerstown, which monies (i. e. specie and notes,) were removed the same evening after the statement was made out.