

COMMUNICATION.

WESTERN SHORE TREASURY,

Annapolis, 21st Feb. 1843.

To the Honorable,

The House of Delegates :

In obedience to their order of the 15th instant, the Treasurer furnishes copies of the commission he issued to George R. Beall, George Kealhofer, and Otho H. Williams, Esqs., in pursuance of the 10th article of the 13th section of the charter of the Farmers and Millers Bank of Hagerstown, and of the certificate he received from them—and he informs the House, as required, that thereupon he considered the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars in gold and silver coin, to have been paid to, and to have been in the possession of, the President and Directors of the said bank, as part of its capital stock—and that if, instead of stating those facts, the certificate had informed him that, “there were but eleven thousand dollars, or thereabouts, in gold and silver coin in the possession of the said President and Directors, and that two certificates of specie deposite in some other banking institutions for about sixty thousand dollars, had been counted by the said commissioners as gold and silver coin,” he would have dealt with such supposed certificate, precisely as he did with that which was in fact returned—that is to say, he would have put it on file in the Treasury, to be forthcoming for the information of the General Assembly, upon the call of either branch, or of any body concerned to inquire for it. Upon neither certificate, would he have arrogated the power, to authorize the bank to go into operation. If he were requested, he would have acknowledged the receipt of, exactly such a certificate as had actually come to him—and having done so, would have done all he was required, or authorized, or at liberty to do. The authority of the company to go into operation as a banking company, emanated, if at all, from the act of the Legislature, and not from any permit of the Treasurer—and it would have been at the peril of the company, if they had gone into operation without having fully complied with the requests of their charter.