

Wm. B. Massey being duly sworn by Thomas J. Earrickson, a Justice of the Peace in and for Caroline county, answers and says:

Sometime in November or December last, Mr. Smith came to my store in company with Mr. Ridgeway, and requested a private interview with me, when the following conversation ensued:

He inquired of me if I would not assist him in making some arrangements to start the bank again, that he was here negotiating for other parties and not for himself, and would like for me to go into the bank to act as President, that I could use the money in my business to an advantage, and also to the bank.

To which I replied, that I would not under any circumstances have anything to do with it whilst it remained in the hands of non-residents of the State.

He remarked then, that he would like for me to recommend him to persons that would act as President and directors, and that would allow him to leave some twenty thousand dollars in the bank and take the balance away for circulation.

At the second interview, which I think was in December or January, he told me that the parties who were to take the bank, had been on here and found matters so much deranged that they would not have anything to do with it, and that he was now compelled to take it for Bartlett & Smith, for the purpose of securing them against loss by Mr. Waggoner.

I asked him if he did not loan to Mr. Waggoner and bring on the money for the purpose of starting the bank? He replied that they did loan Mr. Waggoner the money and brought it on here for that purpose, and it was for a part of that money that Mr. Waggoner was indebted to them, and that Mr. Waggoner had made over his property to his wife, and by them taking the stock would enable them to get the money which Mr. Waggoner owed them out of it. I remarked to him that the bank had been very badly managed. He said that it had been the damnedest swindling concern that he ever saw; that he had in the commencement of the bank marked out a course for them to pursue, and had advised them to do nothing without the knowledge of the directors; but as soon as they got under way they went into a stealing business, by taking out the money and sending it off without the consent of the directors.

WM. B. MASSEY.