

ing from the act of 1804, that portion, which under certain contingencies provides for an increased representation on the part of the State in the Farmer's Bank of Maryland, and referring to the annual report of the treasurer of the Western Shore, to shew that the State's interest in the Bank has been so extended as to authorise the appointment of additional directors, and nominate for that object Samuel Sprigg of Prince George's and Thomas Hayward of Dorchester County. The Policy of the State's retaining the authority to be represented in Banks by independent and separate direction has been so far doubted that the Legislature by an act in 1827 ch. 185, relinquished the right of the State to appoint directors in the Union Bank of Maryland, and substituted in lieu thereof the privilege of voting in the general election of directors in the same proportion as other stockholders. In like manner by the act of 1828, chap. 167. The State waived the right to appoint directors in the Commercial and Farmers Bank of Maryland. In the cases here cited the State yielded a privilege for a consideration derived from the general funds of the institution, to which the State necessarily contributed her proportionate part in the capacity of a stockholder.

As the Legislature has in these particular cases considered that the interest of the State would be advanced by an entire surrender of the right to a separate direction, and such a line of policy having been partially adopted, when your proposition was presented for consideration. The question naturally arises, is it consistent with the course previously indicated, to multiply directors in one institution when in others of a corresponding character, the right to a representation, except as other stockholders, has been wholly abandoned? We therefore respectfully ask whether this would not be an appropriate occasion to record some legislative opinion expressive of an indisposition to multiply directors. It is considered the more so as the nomination is in every respect acceptable, and in whose care the public interest would be judiciously and safely confided. We therefore respectfully express an indisposition to go into the election of additional directors in the Farmers Bank of Maryland.

The said message was read the first, and by special order the second time, when