

1827

Memorial from
 Stafford County
 at Road & Bridge
 15 Dec 1827 —
 Geo M. Cooke
 Ref^d to Roads

TO THE RESPECTABLE OF ALBANY

TO THE LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA.

The Memorial and Remonstrance of the undersigned, inhabitants of the Counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, and Stafford, respectfully represent :

THAT they have been informed that a petition purporting to be from the citizens of Stafford, Fauquier, Culpeper, Madison, and Spotsylvania, will be presented to your honorable body, praying the passage of an act, authorising a turnpike and bridge from Harwood's, in Stafford, through Mortimer's Island, to the town of Fredericksburg.

The undersigned have been not a little surprised at the renewal of a petition which received so little countenance from your honorable body, when presented to your consideration, at the session of 1822-23; and they conceive that now, as heretofore, it will only require a fair representation of facts to defeat the proposed measure. They think that the petition ought not to be granted: because the road now in use, from Harwood's to Fredericksburg, thro' the town of Falmouth, and crossing the Rappahannock at the Falmouth bridge, is as good and near a road as can be obtained on the route proposed for the turnpike; and, in fact, somewhat nearer—as will appear from the annexed survey, and much more susceptible of improve-

ment, at comparatively a trifling expense—and at the same time, affords the advantages of the markets of both Fredericksburg and Falmouth.

That the proposed turnpike cannot be required, either by the want of facilities, or the expense in crossing the Rappahannock, to the town of Fredericksburg. That there is now a safe and good bridge at Falmouth, only half a mile from the one proposed, which is crossed, as is well known, at a reduced price, far below the legal toll, by farmers and others who take it by the year; & that there is also a bridge nearly completed, about a mile below, and opposite the town of Fredericksburg. These bridges have been erected and kept up at a great expense by individual enterprise, and the undersigned believe that when the bridge, now erecting by judge Coalter, and before referred to, shall have been completed, that there will not remain to the proprietors of the bridges even a fair profit for individual enterprise and capital.

These bridges are of much more extensive usefulness than the one proposed, which will

appear by their relative situations, as the former are situate on the main post road from north to south.—And the undersigned believe that any serious diversion from the custom of those bridges would lead to their final destruction, and thereby produce great public inconvenience.

They beg leave further to state, that, from two of the counties, Spotsylvania and Madison, mentioned in the petition, not an article of produce would be transported on the road proposed; and they are sorry to believe that this petition has been circulated by a few restless, self-important, and discontented individuals, from private motives entirely, or by a few individuals in the town of Fredericksburg, who vainly hope to increase their trade, when it is a well known fact, that large quantities of produce are purchased every year in Fredericksburg, by the Falmouth merchants, and hauled across the Falmouth bridge.—And, moreover, that the products of the country always bear as good a price in Falmouth as in Fredericksburg.

Printed at the ARENA Office, Fredericksburg.

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Subscribers' Names.

Wm. H. ...
 Horn ton ...
 Wm. P. Conway
 Daniel Chamwell
 Geo. Haller
 [Redacted]
 Joseph H. Douglass
 Mrs. - Bramlee
 Elijah Bell
 [Redacted]
 John T. Hodgman
 John P. Williams
 John Cooper
 [Redacted]

Subscribers' Names.

Wm. H. ...
 [Redacted]
 Daniel ...
 Jas. Chadwell
 Richard Dikes
 Bailey ...
 Mr. P. Harrison
 Laurine ...
 W. Guy
 Tho. ...
 J. ...
 Henry Dawson
 Wm. N. ...

Subscribers' Names.

Wm. ...
 Jas. Alexander
 Wm. ...
 Mr. ...
 Wm. ...
 Geo. ...

1j-3

VIRGINIA.

Titans of the Counties
present:

John B. ...

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Wm Powell

~~At~~

~~Rodger Sykes~~

~~John M. Daniel~~

~~Joe J. Jackson~~

~~Moses M. Garrison~~

~~Edw Hall~~

L's