

Virginia

Mills Sumner is unanimously appointed Constable of the Town district of Nottingham Parish in this County to supply the vacancy created by the resignation of David D. Savage, the same being of opinion that the said Sumner is a man of honesty, probity and good demeanor. and thereupon the said Mills Sumner together with five thousand dollars contained in the Law drafts which had been made to be recorded. The said Mills Sumner also took the oath of fidelity to the Commonwealth, the oath to support the Constitution of the United States, the oath against duelling and the oath of Office.

On the motion of L. L. L. R. Edwards Clerk of this Court Almarin A. Dolke is permitted to qualify as his deputy during his pleasure. and thereupon the said Almarin A. Dolke took the oath of fidelity to the Commonwealth, the oath to support the Constitution of the United States, the oath against duelling and the oath of office.

Ordered that Nicholas W. Durham, Lewis A. Branch and John A. Hill being first duly sworn before a Justice of the peace for that purpose do appraise all the personal estate of Benjamin Carroll dec'd and return the appraisement under their hands to Court.

The Commissioners appointed by an order of the last Court to act in conjunction with the Commissioners appointed by the Court of Isle of Wight County in viewing the bridge now constructed over Black Water river at Southampton and to report upon the propriety of removing the same, or instead thereof to construct a draw-arch in the one now standing for the passage of boats navigating the said river, this day made their report which is confirmed and ordered to be recorded. and as in these words to wit "Agreeable to an order of the Court of Southampton County bearing date 21st day of December 1835. appointing us Commissioners for that purpose we the undersigned, have met and conferred with the Commissioners appointed by the County of Isle of Wight, on first priority, of opening the navigation of the Black Water river to the rail-road. It appears to your Commissioners that the River is perfectly navigable to the Rail Road, in depth of water, for any Rail-boat or Steam boat that floats on the Chowan River, that the citizens of the adjoining Counties are entitled to the free navigation thereof, and that the only obstruction now in the way is M. Cleary's bridge. Your Commissioners have viewed, and enquired with due attention, whether it would be best, for the interest and convenience of the Citizens to add a draw-arch to the present bridge, or to remove the said bridge to a site above the Rail Road, and they have unanimously, adopted the latter plan, for the following reasons - The construction of the present bridge, will not admit of a draw arch, even if it was new but is now old and much decayed, and requires immediate repairing or rebuilding, so that in adding a draw arch, there must be a new bridge - It seems to your Commissioners, an useless expenditure of money to erect a bridge with a draw arch (always expensive and troublesome) within less than one mile of the head of navigation, for the rail-road may be considered the head thereof. Remove the bridge above the rail-road, and you will have a permanent site, where there will never be any difficulty about its obstructing the navigation of the River. The road on both sides can be made good, at a small expense, and the distance will be shortened, as will more fully appear, by reference to the plan hereto annexed, to which your Commissioners would respectfully invite the attention of the Court. All of which is most respectfully submitted. January 17th 1836. Carr Rivers, Robert Murray, Jacob S. Williams." And it is further ordered that as there is not a majority of the acting Justices of the County present, it be signified of record as the intention of this Court at the next Term thereof to make an order for the removal and erection of the said bridge, pursuant to the said report of the said Commissioners, and that the Sheriff of this County be directed to summon the Justices of this County to attend at the next Court with a view to the same.

It being represented to the Court that the draw arch in the bridge at South Gray is now found to admit the passage of vessels navigating Black Water River, and that the obstruction to such vessels arise from the fact that the span of the arch is too contracted, and the Court being of opinion from