

137-66



A copy of part of the Affidavit sworn to by the Governor
and Deputy Governor of the Bank of England May 5th 1818

"These Deponents further say, that in order to enable the said Corporation
to pay the present Dividends of 10 p^{er} cent on the present amount of Bank Stock,
to provide the means of resuming payments in specie by the said Corporation upon
its extended circulation of Bank Notes and Bank Post Bills, which at the time
of the restrictions on Cash payments in 1797 was only £8,640,250, and on the
11th of April last amounted to £29,412,250, and to answer the other debts due
and demandable from the said Corporation when the restrictions on Cash payments
are removed, and to enable it to meet and answer the Copies and Expenses that
will be produced and occasioned thereby, and also to answer all Copies and Expenses
incidental to the dealings and management of the said Corporation, it is in the
judgment and opinion of the Court of Directors of the said Corporation, as these
Deponents understand and believe, and also in the judgment and opinion of these
Deponents, and as they verily believe, absolutely requisite both for the security of the
Creditors of the said Corporation, and the protection of the interest and credit
of the establishment of the Bank, that any Surplus now remaining after what
has been already divided, should be retained, and that it would be injurious

and dangerous to the affairs and credit of the said corporation, and to the security of the public, if a great portion, or any material portion of such surplus were now to be divided amongst the members of the said corporation; and these Deponents further say, that in ^{the} judgment and opinion as they understand and believe of the Court the Directors of the said corporation, and in the judgment and opinion of these Deponents and as they verily believe, it would not have been safe, just, prudent, or expedient, or consistent with its duty either to the Proprietors or the public for the general courts of the said corporation to have made or declared a greater dividend on the 19th day of March last, than the dividend which the said general court did then declare of the sum of 5th cent for the current half year, and which dividend has since been paid to all the Proprietors who have applied for payment;