

L E T T E R S  
ON  
THE INTERNAL MANAGEMENT  
OF A  
COUNTRY BANK.

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LETTER I.  
INTRODUCTORY.

WHILST the "monetary mind" is darkened by the fear of an approaching Panic, a visitation which most persons expect, and marvel why it has not come; whilst the great Railway mania has passed like a distempered dream, and its hopes lie wrecked in dreary depths of discount and Stag-nation, and those it found employment for now swell the glut of clerks, and find the uses of "The Provident"\* (all speed to its success); whilst, with a strange and ominous perversity, the panic keeps aloof, and the bullion won't go down, and discounts won't go up, and all is indecision, doubt, and foreboding: in times like these,† I say, when the only thing certain to bankers' clerks is the uncertainty

\* The Provident Clerks' Mutual Life Assurance Association.

† This was written at the close of 1846.