

among the different counties. They were received in some of the counties on the first of Jvly, and in others at a later period, according to the distance from the seat of government, and the difficulty of finding a conveyance.

The resolution of December Session 1834, No. 79, required "the Governor and Council to publish such laws of a public nature as they deemed necessary in one newspaper in each county in this State in which a paper is published, and two newspapers in the city of Baltimore." The resolutions of December Session 1835 No. 79, and of December Session 1836 No. 48, made provision for a similar publication of the laws; and this renewal of the original resolution was considered by the Executive as a sufficient proof that the Legislature intended to confine the operation of each of them to the year in which it was passed.

At December Session 1837, no resolution was adopted, but the House of Delegates by an order directed the Secretary of State to "cause to be published weekly in five newspapers in the city of Baltimore, and two newspapers in the city of Annapolis, and all the papers in the several counties of this State, the two acts altering and amending the Constitution and form of Government of this State, passed at December session, 1836, and confirmed at December session, 1837.

At the last session the following resolution was passed by the House of Delegates: "Resolved, that the Secretary of State be required to publish such laws of a public nature as he may deem necessary, in one newspaper of each county in which a newspaper is printed, and in two newspapers in the city of Baltimore."

This resolution was similar in its provisions to that 1834, and to those which followed it in the two succeeding years; except that it gave to the Secretary of State, instead of the Council, the discretion of selecting the laws for publication. This resolution was rejected by the Senate, as will be seen by a reference to page 663 of the journal of proceedings. As the resolution requiring the publication of the laws in the newspapers expired in 1836; as no provision was made for this purpose in 1837; and as a similar resolution was rejected at December Session 1838, the inference was drawn, that the legislature did not intend to invest the Executive with any power or discretion in relation to this subject.

My answer therefore to the first enquiry is, that none of "the acts of assembly of December Session 1838 have been published in the papers" by order of the Executive; and to the second that having explained the manner in which those were published which proposed Constitutional amendments, I leave it to the House of Delegates to determine, whether they were published as required by the Constitution.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, Your ob't servant,

WM. GRASON.

January 8th 1830.