

of obtaining any settlement has been demonstrated and been manifest for a long time, and yet, under this Section, the Comptroller is compelled to publish all these names and amounts, in one or more newspapers in every county of the State and in the City of Baltimore, at an enormous expense to the State Treasury. In the City of Baltimore also accounts are open against former collectors, although under the law no action could be maintained against them; yet there is no power vested in the Comptroller to strike the accounts off the books of the office, or to withhold the names from publication. A very large amount could be saved to the Treasury by simply requiring the names and amounts to be published in one or more newspapers in the county where such defaulting officers reside, and in the City of Baltimore when such officers reside in said city. I respectfully recommend that this Section be amended so as to conform to these suggestions.

PUBLICATION OF THE LAWS.

The Act of 1865, chapter 31, requires that "every Public General Law, which is made to go into effect before the first day of June next after the Session at which it may be passed, shall immediately after its passage, be published at the expense of the State, daily, for one week, in two daily newspapers of the City of Baltimore, and one newspaper in each county, having the largest circulation, if there be a paper published in said county." By the same Act, every Public Local Law taking effect before the first day of June next after the Session at which it may be passed, shall immediately be published once in each of three successive weeks, in all the newspapers of the respective counties in which it may operate.

This Act was amended by chapter 440, of 1868, by requiring that one of the daily papers in the City of Baltimore, in which the laws are to be published, should be in the German language. That Act was further amended at January Session 1868, chapter 67, by adding to it the following: "The Treasurer, upon the warrant of the Comptroller, shall pay to the publishers of the newspapers, in which the Public General Laws are printed in conformity with the first Section of this Article, the compensation to which they may respectively be entitled for printing said General Laws, within six months from the time of publication."

By an examination of the laws passed for a number of Sessions by the General Assembly, it will be seen, that perhaps nineteen-twentieths of the Public General Laws are made to take effect from the date of their passage, and consequently are required to be published in the newspapers all over the State under the above law. This entails an