

Governor Grason, by the hands of James Murray, Esq. Secretary of State.

March 6th, 1841.

*To the House of Delegates:*

I have carefully considered your resolutions requesting me to convene the legislature at the earliest convenient day, for the transaction of important business, which cannot be completed within the period to which your session is now limited.

The Senate and the House of Delegates are the proper judges of the legislative business of the State, and of the time required for transacting it; and I consider it the duty of the Executive, in cases like the present, to exercise the power of calling them together, when he is requested to do so by both houses.

But if the Senate and House of Delegates, differ as to the necessity of an extra session, I should be doubtful of the propriety of determining between them, or of convening them before the time fixed by the constitution, unless in the case of some emergency arising after their adjournment.

At present it is doubtful whether the senate desired to be convened after the close of the session; your resolutions, of the first instant, requesting me to call the legislature, were rejected by that body, after they had been so amended as to require me to exercise the power, "at such time as the exigences of the State shall require, and the constitution of the State will admit."

It appears from this proceeding of the senate, that they were not convinced of the necessity of an extra session, and that they were not willing to unite with the House of Delegates in requesting me to call it.

If the two houses concur in opinion that the public interest requires an extra session, I shall have no hesitation in calling them together at their joint request.

WM. GRASON.

Which was read.

Mr. Bowie submitted the following message, which was read, assented to, and sent to the Senate.

*By the House of Delegates,*

March 6, 1841.

*Gentlemen of the Senate:*

We transmit to you a message which we have just received from his Excellency, the Governor, and respectfully ask your consideration of the same. We assure you that it is utterly impossible for this house to transact the important business now before it, before the time which the constitution has fixed upon for the close of the session.

By order,

George G. Brewer, clerk.

On motion of Mr. Weems,

The house took up for consideration the preamble and resolutions submitted by him on the 25th February in relation to the ground rent