

upon this subject, by the last House of Delegates, which are extracted from the journal of that body.

It appears that on the 29th December, 1840, on motion of Mr. Causin, a message was adopted by the House, proposing to the Senate, "that a joint committee be appointed to contract for the public printing—embracing the printing of both Houses, and of the laws that may be passed during the present session." See House journal, Dec. 29th, 1840.

To this proposition, the Senate assented, as appears by their message to the House, dated Dec. 30th, 1840.

On the 31st December, 1840, Mr. Causin laid before the House a report from the committee on Printing, which says, "that the instruction upon which the committee at present acts, limits the contracts to be made by them to the printing of the present session, and moreover that the committee have determined to proceed no further, until action has been taken by the House."

Mr. Shower and Mr. Willis, from the minority of said committee, made a counter report, in which they recommend to the House the propriety of "at once making a contract for the printing of the present year, in obedience to the order under which the committee was raised."

Mr. Tuck submitted the following resolution, as a substitute for both reports:

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the joint committee on Printing, be instructed to contract for the printing of the ensuing session, in addition to the contracts already proposed in the message under which the joint committee has been appointed;

Which was read;

On the question being put,

Will the House accept said substitute?

It was determined in the affirmative.

The question then recurred upon the passage of the resolution;

Mr. Seidenstricker moved to amend said resolution by striking out these words "of the ensuing session in addition to the contracts already."

Mr. Bowie offered as a substitute for said resolution and amendment, the following:

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the joint committee on Printing be, and they are hereby instructed to contract for the printing of the present session and of the next session until another printer be appointed, and also to bring in a bill to repeal the act of 1831, ch. 303, entitled, an act to provide for the public printing of the State;

On the question being put,

Will the House accept the substitute?

It was determined in the affirmative.

The question then recurred on the passage of the resolution;

Mr. Gaither called for a division of the question upon said res-