

tion of Columbus O'Donnell, and the answer to it, of Frederick Dawson and John S. Gittings, &c." which distinctly asserts the opinion, that a bill which has passed both branches of the Legislature, but not engrossed and sealed, cannot be read as evidence before a court of justice. It will be found also, on reference to the journals of the Senate and House of Delegates, of December session 1835, that a bill for the promotion of Internal Improvement, passed both branches of the Legislature, but was afterwards, on a message from the Senate, reconsidered and amended. If it had been a law from the date of its passage, it could not have been reconsidered and amended, and could only have been affected by a repealing or supplemental law.

If the Senate were right in the position they assumed, that the amended constitution went into operation on the 13th of February, then it is respectfully suggested, that the limit expired on the 13th of March, the day before the receipt of the message from your honorable body, and the nomination of Secretary of State.

I shall have the honor, when the engrossed bill is passed, if it should be passed, entitled, a supplement to the act to establish magistrates courts in the several counties of this State, to make nominations for the offices required, and respectfully ask the return of the nominations which I have made for Somerset county, as they were made under the mistaken impression that the bill had been passed, and of course, made without authority.

I send herewith, for your consideration, a communication from the War Department of the United States,

And have the honor to be,

With high respect,

Your most obt. servt.

THO. W. VEAZEY.

On motion of Mr. Bowie,

The message received, and read this day, from the Governor, was referred to Messrs. Bowie, Jones and Cottman.

On motion of Mr. Tidball,

The Senate resumed the consideration of Legislative business.

THURSDAY, March 22, 1838.

Present the same Senators as in Legislative session.
The galleries were cleared and the doors closed.