

The controversy over the oath of a justice introduced the wider question as to the extension of the English Statute Law to the Province. To influence public opinion in this discussion, David Dulany wrote and William Parks printed, in 1728, a pamphlet entitled, "The Right of the Inhabitants of Maryland to the Benefit of the English Laws." (This was reprinted from the copy in the Society's Library as an appendix to St. George L. Sioussat's "English Statutes in Maryland" in Series XXI of the Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science for 1903.) In this monograph the author treats of the controversy, to which the text of the Assembly Proceedings gives many references. (In the same volume of the Studies is found Dr. Sioussat's "Economics and Politics in Maryland 1720-1750 and the Public Service of Daniel Dulany the Elder.")

We possess an amusing contemporary account in verse of the Session of 1729, in Ebenezer Cook's "Sotweed Redivivus, or the Planter's Looking Glass" (printed by Parks in 1730 and reprinted in Fund Publication, No. 36, of the Society). Cook's Elegy on the Hon. Nicholas Lowe, which appeared in the Maryland Gazette for December 17-24, 1728, is also reprinted in Fund Publication No. 36. Cook there signs his name with the title "Laureat," and one conjectures that Governor Calvert may have given him some right to such a title. Parks not only established about this time the Maryland Gazette, the first newspaper published in the Province, but also put his imprint, in 1728, on the first work printed in Maryland in a foreign language, the "Muscipula: The Mouse Trap, or the Battle of the Cambrians and the Mice," written in Latin by Edward Holdsworth and translated with notes by R. Lewis, who was a schoolmaster at Annapolis "who formerly belonged to Eton." The poem is prefaced by a laudatory dedication to Governor Calvert. (Muscipula has been reprinted in Fund Publication No. 36.) Lewis is also the author of a poem entitled, "A Description of Maryland" (printed in American Museum, Vol. 6, 1789, at page 413), addressed to Lord Baltimore in 1732. A copy of the original edition of Muscipula was sent by Governor Calvert to his friend, Thomas Hearne, with a letter, dated March 18, 1728/9, in which a description of the Province is given. (See 10 Hearne's Collections, 109, in Publications of Oxford Historical Society, reprinted in 11 Md. Hist. Mag. 283.) Hearne notes in his Journal the printing, in the newspapers for January 4, 1728/9, Governor Calvert's speech at the opening of the Assembly of 1728. (10 Hearne, 142 reprinted in 11 Md. Hist. Mag. 284.) Information in regard to legislation concerning the position of the clergy during Governor Calvert's administration may be found in 2 Hawks' "Ecclesiastical Contributions," 207 and Perry "Historical Collections Relating to the American Church," 262 to 311.