

our late most gracious Sovereign" in prosecuting the war (pp. 456-458). To this "Addition for Reasons too Obvious to be mentioned" the Upper House refused to agree (pp. 411-412).

The committee of the Lower House on April 28 reported to that body the details of its meeting with representatives of the Upper House on the 23rd, and said that when this additional paragraph, approved by a vote of the Lower House, was submitted to the representatives of the upper chamber, the latter, "after Reading over the same, immediately left the Members of your House without saying a Word: which Behaviour" was felt to be a dissolution of the committee; and the Lower House then ordered the preparation of a separate address (pp. 466-468). Members of the Upper House on the joint committee made a report on April 28 to their house in which that body concurred, saying that the address desired by the Lower House not only expressed its condolences to the King, but added matters foreign to the subject, such as references to the Assessment bill and the bill for the support of a provincial agent in Great Britain. The Upper House then declared that the agitation for a provincial agent was not only entirely foreign to such an address to the King, but was merely a means of casting "an injurious Blemish upon his Lordship's Government"; that the resolves adopted by the Lower House and the Assessment bill were also only devised "to weaken the hands of this Government" through a "controul of executive Power" which would prevent the Governor calling out the militia when needed; that the Assessment bill contained various provisions felt by the King's Attorney-General to be contrary to established Proprietary rights; that the expenditure of the taxes raised under it was to be entirely in the hands of those appointed from the Lower House and only removeable by it; that men "possessed with such truculent Privilege" would soon make the other branches of the Government mere "conduit pipes" for such laws as they might care to pass (pp. 421-422).

The Lower House address of condolence, altered in minor respects but with the contentious last paragraph unchanged, appeared with the title: "To the King's most Excellent Majesty—The Humble Address of the House of Delegates of the Province of Maryland", and will be found printed on pages 474 and 475. The address of the Upper House to the King is attested by the Governor and by Benjamin Tasker Sr. as President of that house (pp. 424-425). The Lower House in a later address to the Governor requested him to give orders that the Great Seal of the Province be affixed to its address to the King (p. 480). Sharpe in a sarcastic message to the Lower House in reply declared that "it is not usual with me to order the Great Seal to be affixed to any Papers which I Have not seen", and "I cannot learn that they ever desired to have the Great Seal affixed" to any previous address of that house to the King, "nor indeed can I conceive . . . that the Seal can be of any Consequence", unless it "may be construed by some as a kind of Assent to it's Contents . . . since I cannot suppose you will desire any Person to present your Address, whose Character is not too well established, to leave any Room for His Majesty, or his Ministers, to suspect, that he would presume to offer any Address but an authentic One" (p. 487).