

INTRODUCTION  
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1769-1770  
COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION  
THE COUNCIL OR UPPER HOUSE

As has already been stated Governor Eden had his first meeting with his Council on June 12, 1769. All the men who attended this meeting had also served as Councillors under Governor Horatio Sharpe (*Arch. Md.* XXXII, 272, 283). Benjamin Tasker, who had been one of the members of the Council under Sharpe, had died on June 19, 1768 (*Arch. Md.* LXI, xli, 301; *Maryland Gazette*, June 23, 1768). Subsequently, at a meeting with his Councillors on November 12, 1769, Governor Eden informed them that he had received instructions from the Lord Proprietary to appoint William Fitzhugh a member of the Council (*Arch. Md.* XXXII, 328). This meant that Fitzhugh sat as a member of the Upper House, the personnel of the two bodies being the same. William Hayward became a member of the Council on September 24, 1770 (*ibid.* 385-386).

During the three sessions of the General Assembly held during 1769-1770, when the members of the Council were sitting as the Upper House, Benedict Calvert, Daniel Dulany, John Ridout, Walter Dulany, John Beale Bordley, William Fitzhugh and George Steuart were present at all three sessions. At the session which met in September-November, 1770, William Hayward was present, but he did not attend the third session.

Samuel Chamberlaine, Charles Hammond, Edward Lloyd III, and Richard Lee were the other members of the Council. Only Lee and Hammond attended any of the meetings of the Upper House during the sessions of the General Assembly held in the years 1769 and 1770. Chamberlaine, Hammond and Lee were old and infirm. Chamberlaine tendered his resignation as Councillor and member of the Upper House on June 22, 1769. Lloyd, who found his duties as a Councillor distasteful, resigned from the Council on November 16 of the same year. He was the first of these four men to die. His death occurred at Wye House on January 27, 1770, at the age of fifty-nine. A newspaper notice of his death described him as "Possessed of great Wealth" (*Arch. Md.* LXI, xli-xlii; *Maryland Gazette*, June 22, Nov. 16, 1769; Feb. 8, 1770; *Md. Hist. Mag.* Vol. XVII, 28; *ibid.* Vol. XVIII, 274-275). Charles Hammond lived to be eighty years old. He died on September 13, 1772, at his home on the Severn river (*Md. Hist. Mag.* Vol. XVIII, 278). Richard Lee died at Blenheim, in Charles County, on Jan. 26, 1787. He was the father of Richard Lee, Jr., sheriff of Charles County, who is mentioned in the Introduction, pp. xxiv, xxxiv-xxxv. (The Lees of Blenheim, by Ethel R. Hayden, *Md. Hist. Mag.* Vol. XXXVII, 204-205; *Maryland Gazette*, Feb. 15, 1787).