

(1755–1844). Her half sisters were Sarah; Ann. **CHILDREN.** SONS: Michael, who served in the Maryland House of Delegates from Calvert County in 1813, and resided in Missouri by 1829; Roger Brooke (1777–1864), chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, 1836–1864, who married Ann Arnold Phoebe Charlton (1783–1855), daughter of *John Ross Key* (1754–1821); Augustus (1787–1823), an attorney, who married first, Mary (1788–1817), and second, Catherine Herby (Hurly) of Philadelphia; Octavius C. (?–1832), a physician, who married first, in 1818, Jane Gray (?–1821) of Calvert County, and second, Cornelia (1807–?), daughter of Henry H. Young. **DAUGHTERS:** Dorothy; Sophia Y., never married; and Alice, never married. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: attended the college of the English Jesuits at St. Omer's and later at Bruge, France. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Catholic. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** planter. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Calvert County, 1781–1782, 1784, 1785 (Manufactories), 1786–1787, 1787–1788 (Grievances 1), 1797, 1798. **LOCAL OFFICE:** coroner, Calvert County, commissioned 1777 and 1785 (resigned). **MILITARY SERVICE:** 1st lieutenant, Calvert County Militia, commissioned 1776 and 1778. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** assessed value £674.6.8, including 10 slaves and 2 oz. plate, 1782; assessed value £769.11.8, including 13 slaves and 2 oz. plate, 1783. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** ca. 800 acres in Calvert County (all inherited). **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** ca. March 1820, in Loudon County, Virginia, after a fall from his horse. On July 1, 1819, Taney killed a neighbor, John Magruder, in a duel. He fled to Virginia, and on July 15, 1819, he conveyed all of his property to his sons, Roger Brooke and Octavius C. They in turn were to pay him \$1,000 a year from the profits of the estate. After his death his property was to be divided equally among his children. When Michael Taney died, all of his property, including ca. 800 acres in Calvert County, was sold for ca. \$25,000.

**TASKER, BENJAMIN** (ca. 1690–1768). **BORN:** ca. 1690, probably in Calvert County; youngest son. **NATIVE:** second generation. **RESIDED:** in Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, by 1711 until death. By 1721 Tasker and his family were living in the former dwelling of *William Bladen* (1670–1718) on Market Street, overlooking Spa Creek. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** **FATHER:** *Thomas Tasker* (?–1700). **MOTHER:** Rebecca Isaacs Brooke (?–by 1700). **BROTHERS:** John (?–1711); Thomas (?–

ca. 1696). **SISTER:** Elizabeth (1686–1706/7), who married *Thomas Addison* (1679–1727). **NIECES:** Rebecca Addison (1703–?), who married first, *James Bowles* (?–ca. 1727/28), and second, *George Plater* (1695–1755); Elinor Addison (1705–?), who married fourth, *Corbin Lee* (?–1774). **MARRIED** on July 31, 1711, in St. Anne's Parish, Anne Arundel County, Anne (?–1775), daughter of *William Bladen* (1670–1718) and wife Anne Van Swearingen. Her brother was *Thomas Bladen* (1698–1780). Her brothers or half brothers were Christopher; William; and Martin. Her sister or half sister was Priscilla. **CHILDREN.** SONS: William (1713–1715); Benjamin (1717–1717); Bladen (?–ca. 1721); *Benjamin Tasker, Jr.* (1720/21–1760); Bladen (1722–1723); and Bladen (1730–died young). **DAUGHTERS:** Anne (1723–1817), who married in 1741 *Samuel Ogle* (ca. 1694–1752); Rebecca (1724–1822), who married in 1749 *Daniel Dulany, Jr.* (1722–1797); Elizabeth (1726–1789), who married in 1747 Christopher Lowndes (1713–1785), a merchant of Bladensburg, Prince George's County; and Frances (?–1787), who married in 1754 Robert Carter (ca. 1728–1804) of "Nomini Hall," Westmoreland County, Virginia. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Anglican, owned a pew in St. Anne's Church, Annapolis, by at least 1735. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., by 1717; Esq., by 1731; Hon., by 1747; second generation councillor. Gov. *Horatio Sharpe* (1718–1790) wrote of Tasker: "his mild temper and behaviour to every Body made him much esteemed and as he was known to almost every person of consideration in the Province his death is universally lamented." **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** officeholder; planter; founding partner of the Baltimore Ironworks, which was established in October 1731 with capital of £3,500.0.0 sterling and five equal partners: *Charles Carroll* (1691–1755), *Charles Carroll, Sr.* (1702–1782), *Daniel Dulany* (1685–1753), Daniel Carroll, of Duddington Manor (1707–1734), and Tasker. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Annapolis, 1715, 1716–1717 (resigned before the 3rd session of the 1716–1718 Assembly to become sheriff), 1720–1721/22 (elected to the 2nd session of the 1719–1721/22 Assembly); Upper House, 1722–1724, 1725–1727, 1728–1731, 1732–1734, 1734/35–1737 (Bills of Credit 1, Cv, 3; president 3), 1738, 1739–1741 (president 3), 1742–1744 (president), 1745 (president), 1745/46–1748 (president), 1749–1751 (president), 1751–1754 (president), 1754–1757 (president), 1757–1758 (president), 1758–1761