

ment this allowance became a fixed salary of 12,000 pounds of tobacco, about £ 50 sterling, a year. That of the Clerk of the Upper House remained at this figure until 1747 when it was reduced twenty percent.¹³ Moreover, as this salary was raised in the public levy, it could be paid only on passage of the journal of accounts. Consequently a quarrel over paying the Councillors, which delayed passage of the journal from 1747 to 1756, and a similar dispute over the Clerk of the Council's salary, which delayed another passage until 1766, held up the pay of the Clerk of the Upper House.

In the eighteenth century his fees amounted to about £ 75 currency (£ 38 or £ 40 sterling) a year. These, along with his salary of about £ 50, made up an annual income of about £ 88 or £ 90 sterling.¹⁴ The combined offices of Clerk of the Council and Clerk of the Upper House were consequently worth, together, about £ 180 a year.¹⁵ However we have seen that payment of the two salaries, amounting to over half this sum, was in later colonial times twice long delayed.

Prior to 1682 the Clerk of the Lower House, who in 1650 had succeeded the Clerk of Assembly, was elected by the delegates and admitted to office by the Governor. Lord Baltimore appointed clerks in 1682 and 1683, and the Deputy Governors appointed one in 1686. At the establishment of royal government the former practice of election by the delegates and admission by the Governor was permanently restored.¹⁶

Certain fees were bestowed on the Clerk of the Lower House in October, 1640, and April, 1684.¹⁷ On the organization of crown

of tobacco a day from two days before to two days after each session. This allowance seems to have been extended to both clerks on division of the Assembly into two Houses in 1650.

¹³ *Ibid.*, XXV, 320.

¹⁴ John Ross received this amount as Clerk of the Upper House in 1754 (Portfolio No. 3, folder 30, Hall of Records).

¹⁵ An estimate of about 1745 rates this combined income at £ 150 sterling (Massachusetts Historical Society, *Collections*, series I, vol. VII [1801], 202-03).

¹⁶ See the report on this matter, May 24, 1749, in *Archives*, XLVI, 187-203. We should note that the Governor did appoint Christopher Gregory in Oct., 1698. On two occasions, in May, 1692, and Sept., 1708, the Lower House refused the Governor's nominee and chose their own clerk, whom the Governor then confirmed. At the session of May 9-11, 1749, the delegates denied the Governor's right to approve their nominee, whereupon Ogle prorogued the Assembly for two weeks. On reassembling the Lower House voted by a small majority to ask the Governor's approbation of their clerk.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, I, 90; XIII, 42-43.