

both the important committees, that of laws, and that of aggrievances, and was on no occasion made the bearer of a message to the Upper House. It probably did not suit his temper to stand at the bar of that house in which he had once occupied a seat. The differences between the two houses began almost immediately. In 1723, the appropriation for the customary allowances to the Councillors for their services was refused by the Lower House, and the ensuing debates between the two houses were frequently marred by aspersions cast by the one upon the intelligence, motives and sincerity of the other. At the session in March, 1725/6, Bordley complained that he had been accused of having needlessly prolonged the previous session. During the next session, that in July, 1726, he was absent; and while the two houses failed to agree upon a tobacco bill, the communications between them, upon this occasion, were free from discourtesy.

It should be added that Thomas Bordley was instrumental in securing the establishment of a printing press at Annapolis by William Parks, in 1726, and he was the editor of the volume printed by order of the Lower House in 1725, by Andrew Bradford, in Philadelphia, containing the charter of Maryland, and the debates that had occurred concerning the government and judicature. In the preface the importance of a knowledge of the constitution of the country was urged, and the suggestion made that even part of the Legislature seemed to have doubts concerning it.

The records belonging to the State for the period covered by this volume are very defective, some of the manuscripts being so decayed that they cannot be handled without further damage, and what remains of them is in many places illegible. Fortunately it has been possible to supply what was lacking from the Maryland Historical Society's collection of Calvert papers, which contains copies of the journals, made at the time, for the information of the Lord Proprietary, and which are often of earlier date than the copies belonging to the State. The Upper House Journal for the session in 1724 is taken from a copy in the State collection (the only one in existence), which was made in 1738, a fact disclosed by the accidental insertion, by the copyist, of that date among the Proceedings.