

On March 29, the final day of the "Convention," the House refused to put the previous question as to informing the Governor that it proposed to print Gov. Clinton's letter, by a vote of 14 to 28. The affirmative votes were cast by the Somerset delegates, Key and Bond of St. Mary's, the Greshams, Lee of Dorchester, the two Annapolis men, and all the Worcester members, except Henry who voted no.

The next Session convened on June 17, 1746, and was the first Session of the Assembly, inasmuch as it passed bills which became laws. The Governor again summoned the members to aid in King George's War. The first division occurred on June 20, when the House refused to levy an additional tax for a Canadian expedition. Only five voted no (viz: Barnes of St. Mary's, Stoughton and Dashiell of Somerset, and Henry and Scarborough of Worcester) while thirty-seven voted aye. On the same day, however, the House refused to tack a provision for an agent in England to the bill appropriating money for the Canadian expedition from the unissued paper money, by a vote of 13 to 13. The irreconcilable Country party consisted of Wilson of Kent, the Anne Arundel delegation, Smith and Browne of Calvert, Courts and Smallwood of Charles, Nicholas Goldsborough, Sheredine of Baltimore and Wootton and Stoddert of Prince George's. On June 23, the Lower House decided not to have a conference requested by the Upper House, by a vote of 16 to 26. The affirmative votes were cast by Barnes and Bond of St. Mary's, the Greshams, the Somerset and Worcester members, George and Bayard of Cecil, Gordon of Annapolis and Hammond of Queen Anne's. A considerable amount of correspondence with Govs. Shirley and Clinton and the Duke of Newcastle was spread on the Journal.

Then the House embarked on a rather ridiculous claim of privilege, urging that, because Gov. Bladen had, in an altercation with Walter Smith, an anti-Proprietary leader, after the close of the last Session, taken him to task for his opposition, the Governor had violated the privileges of the House.

On June 28, the House voted to lay a duty of four pence per hogshead on tobacco for the purchase of arms, etc., by a vote of 31 to 18, for a three penny duty. Those who favored the less amount were Barnes, Bond and Mills of St. Mary's, the Greshams, the Somerset and Worcester members, Thomas of Talbot, Lecompte of Dorchester, George of Cecil, and the two Annapolis men. On the same day, the decision was made, by a vote of 16 to 33, not to alter the provision as to paying the armorer. The affirmative voices were those of Barnes, the Greshams, the Somerset men, Thomas, Lecompte, George, the Annapolitans, Hammond of Queen Anne's, and three of the Worcester members (Henry voted nay).