

rejected Supply Bill for His Majesty's service be printed in the *Journal of Votes and Proceedings*.

Another bill of considerable military importance was introduced into the Lower House while the Supply Bill was under consideration and being shuttlecocked between the two houses. This was the bill for securing the western frontier and for maintaining couriers from Will's Creek (Cumberland) to Annapolis, which was passed July 2d by the Lower House. This bill provided for raising £2,000, to recruit, arm and maintain for four months a body of eighty rangers and officers to defend the frontier; for maintaining a courier service with the post at Will's Creek; and for a bounty of £5 on the scalps of enemy Indians, the money for the purpose to be raised by additional duties on rum, wines and convicts. The bill was sent to the Upper House, which promptly returned it with a message that it felt it was framed in a manner which made it difficult or impossible to enforce, but the difficulties were not designated. The Lower House on July 5th sent the bill back with a message that it saw nothing in it which made enforcement difficult, and added "we should have taken it kind in your Honours to have pointed out to us any Defects or Repugnancies in that bill." The Upper House replied that to return a bill after a negative was irregular, and that it would have been glad to explain its objections had it been asked to do so in the usual manner of procedure between the two houses. The Lower House took no formal notice of this rebuke, nor of Sharpe's urgent request to amend the bill, and by a vote of 29 to 12 refused to do so, directing that the bill with the messages between the houses in regard to it should be printed in the *Journal of the Votes and Proceedings* and also in the *Maryland Gazette*. While nowhere in the proceedings of either house are the objections to the bill specifically stated, these were probably due to the proposed additional tax on convicts which had been objected to in the Supply Bill that had been rejected by the Upper House at the last session. A better indication of popular feeling may often be had from bills such as this, which were passed by the Lower House and rejected by the upper chamber, than from laws which were approved by both houses.

Feeling ran so high in the matter of the disputed fees from ordinary licences that the Committee on Grievances and Courts of Justice of the Lower House reported on July 7th that it had examined the commission dated February 2, 1753, constituting Cecilius Calvert, Secretary of the Province Residing in England, in which the Proprietary authorized Cecilius to take to himself "the Advantage of granting Ordinary-Licences" and the money derived from them, and that the Committee felt that this created a monopoly, and was contrary to the rights and privileges of the good people of this Province and contrary to the