

common and statute law. The house concurred with this report and registered its protest.

In addition to the two bills just summarized, the Lower House July 8th, passed a bill to prohibit the export of provisions, ammunition, and warlike stores which might reach the French. The desirability of such a law was obvious and was urged by Sharpe on the ground that similar legislation had been enacted recently by several other colonies. This bill which was drawn up in the Lower House, contained the provision that one-half the fines and forfeitures under it were to go to the informer, and the other half to the government to defray the expenses of couriers to Fort Cumberland; or if there was a surplus, it was to be applied by the Assembly, under the Supply Bill for His Majesty's service, to defray the expenses of the expedition to the western frontier. The bill was amended by the Upper House so that the fines should be divided into three parts: one-third to the informer, one-third to the government, and one-third to the Lord Proprietary. The Lower House refused to accept the amendment giving one-third the fines to the Lord Proprietary and ordered the bill printed in the *Journal of its Votes and Proceedings*. A similar principle was involved here as in the case of the fees received from ordinary licences, the Proprietary claiming as his own fines and forfeitures from all sources, the Lower House asserting that these belonged to the public. This bill had been introduced to replace an act for the same purpose which had been passed earlier in the same session, under which it was provided that the fines should be divided, one-half to the informer and the other half to be expended by the Assembly as it saw fit for His Majesty's service. The bill passed earlier in the session was allowed to stand.

The inevitable Roman Catholic question came up again at this session. A resolution was introduced in the Lower House, and passed unanimously on July 2d, that the well-known English Statute of I William and Mary, Chap. XVIII, against the Catholics be extended to this Province, and it was further resolved that the Governor be asked to issue a proclamation commanding all magistrates and officers to enforce the statute. This statute, among other restrictions, excluded Roman Catholics from holding any public office. The Lower House in an address July 3d to the Governor, adopted by a vote of 41 to 6, called to his attention that Popery was countenanced in the Province and its growth encouraged, and that the people had the mortification of seeing Roman Catholics promoted to offices of greater profit, when they should have been removed from all offices. This address pointed out that Henry Darnall, the Attorney-General, and his brother, John Darnall, although now apparently conforming, had been educated in a foreign Popish Seminary and were now educating their children in this religion. It was further declared that undue leniency had been shown by the Governor towards certain notorious criminals, and those