

in the best Posture for defence things would at that time admitt and to declare that we think from this Prudent Conduct of your Excellencys our Borders have been preserved from the Calamities our Neighbours now suffer."

The Governor, under date of March 2d, notified the Lower House of the depredation of the Indians in Pennsylvania near the Maryland-Pennsylvania line, and the measures he had taken to send two ranging parties of twenty men each under Lieutenants Baker and Shelby to protect the inhabitants of Frederick County who had petitioned him for assistance. Again on March 30th he sent a message stating that the settlements near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, were threatened, and later in another message reported sundry Indian outrages.

On March 5th the Lower House in a message to the Upper House said that as it would take considerable time to prepare a bill for defence, it would like immediate concurrence in an ordinance for the payment of £500 out of the Loan Office, to be placed at the disposal of the Governor, to be expended by him to maintain the ranging parties under Baker and Shelby and for the purpose of offering a bounty of £10 for the scalp of every enemy Indian. It will be noted that the value of scalps in recent months had risen from £5 to £10, and was soon to go even higher. The ordinance was promptly concurred in by the Upper House, and scalps must have come in quite plentifully for it was necessary on April 1st to appropriate £250 additional by ordinance for these same purposes.

Special elections were held during this session in Anne Arundel and Charles Counties to fill vacancies in the Lower House caused respectively by the death of Dr. Charles Carroll (1691-1755) of Annapolis and by the resignation of Henry Moore of Charles County. Two young men were now returned to the Assembly who were to figure conspicuously in public life for many years. These were Charles Carroll, the Barrister (1723-1783), son of Dr. Charles Carroll, of the Protestant branch of the Carroll family, and Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer of Port Tobacco Parish, Charles County.

The preparation of the £40,000 Supply Bill for His Majesty's service was entrusted to the Ways and Means Committee, and on March 11th Philip Hammond of Anne Arundel County, chairman, brought in a report recommending that the money be raised by taxes, licences, and duties on numerous articles, which it was estimated would yield about £8,000 annually, sufficient in five years to "sink" an issue of £40,000 paper money. These included new or increased taxes and duties on spirits and wines, an annual licence on billiard tables; additional import taxes on negroes, horses, pitch, tar, and turpentine; taxes on various writs and other legal papers; and special taxes on land and on land survey warrants. The tax on legal documents was to be made effective by stamping each paper. This was concurred in by both houses without objection, although a