

the Lower House and to disprove the pretensions of the Proprietary, the title indicating that it harked back to the act of 1704 passed in the reign of Queen Anne which the Lower House asserted was still operative.

After spending some days in considering a militia bill as requested by the Governor, and voting on various exemptions and other details, the Lower House on October 7th by a vote of 20 to 14 suddenly decided not to consider the bill further at this session.

The Lower House also postponed action upon the recommendation of the Governor that Maryland join with Virginia in erecting a lighthouse at Cape Henry.

The usual audit by a joint committee of the two houses of the Paper Currency or Loan Office, was made and approved, and the Governor was urged to bring suit against sundry sheriffs who had failed to pay over to the Province certain monies which had been collected by them.

The act to prevent warlike stores and provisions from reaching the enemy, which had passed at the third session, and had been continued at the fourth, and was now about to expire by limitation, was again continued in effect until May 1757. The act, passed at the preceding February-May session, for building a causeway through Vienna Marsh in Dorchester County, was repealed and a new law for the same purpose passed. An act reimbursing the owners of tobacco stored in a public tobacco warehouse in Charles County and the usual act to pay Jonas Green for printing the Session Laws and the *Votes and Proceedings* of the Lower House were passed. The Assembly was then prorogued on October 9th to meet again March 31, 1757.

In the choice of the material of this period for publication there are available both manuscript and contemporary printed records of the proceedings of the Lower House and of the acts of the Assembly. The proceedings of the Lower House in printed form known as the *Votes and Proceedings of the Lower House* were published immediately following the conclusion of each session. In addition to this printed record the State possesses a complete series of volumes containing the manuscript records of the proceedings of the Lower House. These may be looked upon as the official records of the activities of the Lower House. In addition to official records inscribed in these old libers, there have been preserved for many of the sessions the rough notes kept by the Clerk of the Lower House from which these official records in the old libers were copied. In general, it may be said that the material as it now appears in this volume of the *Archives of Maryland* is based in form on the *Votes and Proceedings* as printed by Jonas Green of Annapolis, the Provincial printer, checked up with the official manuscript libers. Where differences occur, that found in