

the greatest irritation because of its inability to prevent the Governor, under the Act of 1715, from calling out the county militia whenever he thought this necessary. All of these disputes between the two houses are discussed hereafter in this introduction. They resulted in the exchange of numerous, lengthy, and bitter, messages between the Lower House on one hand, and the Governor or the Upper House on the other, which reveal the irreconcilable differences between the popular and the Proprietary points of view. The *ex parte* arguments adduced by each side to support its respective claims are invaluable sources of information to the students of Maryland constitutional history of this period. From the legal point of view the advantages in these discussions were with the Governor, who won the battles on nearly every issue, but by the refusal of the Proprietary to make concessions to his people in the end he lost his Province.

These bitter disputes between the two houses at this session prevented the passage of a Supply act, a conference committee of the two houses having failed to come to any agreement. Nor was any other legislation of importance passed. Sharpe on May 13, prorogued the Assembly to meet again on June 26, but after two postponements he decided to dissolve it and order the election of a new Assembly, which met in the following October (*Arch. Md. xxxi*, 91, 294-295).

As noted elsewhere (p. xlv) an act (No. 1) was passed appropriating £300 for presents to be given the fifty or more Cherokee Indians then on the frontier, and to pay for the services of a "conductor" and an interpreter who accompanied some of them to Annapolis, and for their support while there (pp. 690-691). The petition of William Cromwell, asking payment of £25 : 6 : 3 for having acted as the conductor of a party of Cherokees from Winchester, Virginia, to Fort Frederick, Maryland, was rejected by the Upper House on April 5, 1758 (p. 476). An act (No. 2) was passed to rectify certain technical defects in a law passed at the September-December, 1757, session, taxing the inhabitants of St. George's Parish, Baltimore County, the sum of £550 for completing the furnishings of the church (pp. 691-692). Acts were also passed (No. 3) to prevent the counterfeiting of the bills of credit or paper money of Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, the Jerseys, and the three lower counties on the Delaware (pp. 692-693); and (No. 4) to protect the interests of orphans in landed estates held by guardians (pp. 693-695). Laws were passed (No. 5) to strengthen the provisions of a former Supply bill still in force imposing a duty on horses and liquor brought into the Province (pp. 695-697); and another (No. 6) to better enforce the liquor provisions of a former act regulating the importation into the Province from Pennsylvania and the Delaware counties of negroes, Irish Papists, and liquors (pp. 697-703).

The Assembly which had been elected in September 1757, had now held four futile sessions in less than a year in a vain attempt to pass a Supply or Service bill satisfactory to both houses. On August 21, 1758, the Governor, his patience exhausted, and in the desperate hope of securing a less obdurate Lower House, asked his Council for an opinion as to the advisability of dis-