

Greatest Part of which I must send to the Inhabited part of the Country to Recruit and fit themselves out for the ensuing Campaign". He then named some twelve posts on the frontiers of Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania which should be garrisoned by the troops of these colonies, including Fort Frederick and Fort Cumberland in Maryland, and asked that this Province furnish and maintain at least five hundred men for this purpose. To make the men comfortable they should each be furnished with a second blanket in lieu of a bed, a flannel jacket, a new pair of breeches, two pairs of stockings, and a pair of shoes. He added that he expected by this time the new Assembly had appropriated the money to reimburse him for the funds he had advanced to pay the Maryland troops the large arrears due them by this Province when he took them into the service of the Crown (pp. 39-41). The reader is reminded that Brigadier-General John Forbes died of dysentery on March 11, 1759, not long after the expedition, which he had so well planned, reached the Ohio and occupied Fort Duquesne. It was on December 13 that Sharpe in messages directed to the two houses announced that Lieutenant-Colonel Dagworthy had just arrived from Fort Duquesne with news that General Forbes had taken possession of it on November 25, the French garrison having abandoned it two days previously, some going down the Mississippi, others up the Ohio towards Canada (pp. 51-52, 101, 104).

In its address in reply to the Governor's speech, the Upper House promised to further in every way General Forbes' wishes. The Lower House in its reply, drawn up by a committee of which William Murdock was chairman, while promising to embrace every opportunity to advance the security of the Province and his Majesty's service in general, reminded the Governor that at its last meeting it had resolved to reimburse General Forbes out of the first money voted for the advances he had made to the Maryland troops, and that a bill to this end might by this time have been passed had he not prevented this by prorogation. It promised full "Consideration of the General's Letter and with Dispatch (which we hope will not be embarrassed by any unnecessary obstruction)". A vote to eliminate this last phrase, enclosed in the house journal in parentheses and obviously aimed at the Upper House, was lost 20 to 13 (pp. 68-70).

The Lower House adopted the same rules of order in use in preceding sessions, and again selected the Rev. Clement Brooke of St. Anne's to read prayers twice daily. Major Benjamin Handy, a delegate from Worcester County chosen at the recent election, having accepted the office of sheriff, the house ordered the Speaker to issue a warrant for the election of a new member to fill his place (p. 68).

This November-December 1758 session which lasted a month was productive of little legislation of importance. While the undercurrent of hostility between the two houses was as strong as in recent sessions, there were fewer interchanges of messages and addresses, between the Governor and the Upper House on one hand and the Lower House on the other, in which the issues dividing them were discussed on their merits as each side chose to view them. Bills which had passed one house were now often immediately rejected by the