

ing the Proprietary's prerogative. To be sure, at this session a few acts were passed and became laws, but these were either acts continuing the operation of old laws, or were local or private acts unrelated to subjects of political controversy.

In the Upper House one new name appears, that of Richard Lee of Charles County, who had recently been added to the Governor's Council. He was a member of a branch of the distinguished Lee family of Virginia that had settled in southern Maryland early in the eighteenth century. The correspondence of Governor Sharpe shows that both Colonel William Goldsborough and Colonel Robert Jenckins Henry were in bad health and were unable to attend meetings, and that Colonel Edward Lloyd of "Wye" was irregular in his attendance (*Arch. Md.* IX, 326, 389). This correspondence also shows that enmity had developed between Daniel Dulany the younger, the strongest man intellectually on the Council, and Stephen Bordley the Attorney-General (*ibid.*, 389), and that Sharpe had begun to doubt Dulany's complete attachment to the Proprietary interest (*ibid.*; 479, 497-501).

The Lower House listened with resentment to the Governor's opening speech to the two houses, which included a paragraph calling the attention of this house to the legal opinion of Charles Pratt, the King's Attorney-General, to the effect that the recent Supply or Assessment bills passed by that house were unconstitutional. This opinion (pp. 202-204) is more fully discussed in a later section of this introduction (p. li). After congratulating both houses on the signal success of the King's arms during the past year, the Governor urged the Assembly to comply immediately with the wishes of the King as expressed in the letters of Pitt and Amherst which he transmitted for their consideration, and urged that in considering the Supply bill they avoid the rock on which the two houses had hitherto split (pp. 228-229).

George Fraser, a delegate from Prince George's County, and Captain Arthur Lee of Charles County, although elected to the Lower House in September, 1758, were now sworn in and took their seats for the first time (pp. 23, 228, 229). The Speaker was directed to issue writs for elections to fill the places of Thomas Harris of Queen Anne's County who had recently died, and of Edmund Key of Saint Mary's County "removed from the Province" to England. The Rev. Alexander Williamson who had lately been appointed rector of St. Anne's Parish was desired to read prayers twice daily in the Lower House. The rules used at previous sessions were adopted and six standing committees appointed (pp. 228-229).

The letter from William Pitt, a circular communication sent to various colonial governors, dated at Whitehall, January 7th, 1760 (p. 199-200), was similar in phrase and content to that submitted to the last Assembly (pp. 142-144). He repeated his request that the Assembly furnish immediately as many men as possible to cooperate with the regular British forces, and reiterated his previous statements that officers in the Provincial service, as high as and including colonels, would be given the same rank as those in the regular service; he declared that the King would arm, equip, and feed the men to be raised, and that although for the present the Province would be called upon to recruit,