

passed defining the scope of the appropriations to be made under it. The number of men to be levied was fixed in this bill at four hundred. An assessment upon estates and incomes was voted as the method of taxation, and the amount to be raised fixed at £40,000. It was passed by the Lower House on April 25 by a vote of 23 to 13, and rejected after one reading in the Upper House (pp. 445-449, 461, 463, 420). This marked the eighth rejection of the Assessment bill. No copy of the bill is known to exist. It was probably almost identical with that passed at recent sessions, except as to the amount appropriated and the number of men to be levied, although there is reason to believe that in addition it may have contained an allowance for a provincial agent in Great Britain, apparently not included in former Supply bills (*Arch. Md.* IX, 519).

The two houses also split on the adoption of a joint address of condolence to the new king George III upon the death of his grandfather and predecessor George II, and of congratulation upon his own accession to the throne. The Lower House insisted upon the inclusion in the address of a paragraph praying the King to allow the people of Maryland to maintain an agent in Great Britain through whom they might lay their grievances directly before him. This was of course violently opposed by the Upper House. Separate addresses of condolence and congratulation were then drawn up by each house, although there is reason to believe that the address of the Lower House never actually reached the King. This story is told more fully elsewhere in this introduction (pp. lx-lxii). A bill was also introduced in the Lower House at this session for the support of an agent in Great Britain (p. 473), but does not seem to have been pressed for passage, possibly because it was known that rejection was inevitable in the Upper House, and it was hoped that a direct appeal to the Crown might bring about the desired result in another way.

The embezzlement of over £2,000 of public funds by Henry Darnall, Naval Officer of the Patuxent District and a former Attorney-General, was discovered during this session by a joint committee of the two houses appointed to examine the accounts of the Loan Office. Darnall, a member of the very prominent Roman Catholic family of that name, of the "Woodyard", Prince George's County, and closely related to the Carrolls, promptly absconded, and his brother John Darnall and Charles Carroll of Annapolis (father of Charles Carroll of Carrollton), sureties on his bond, immediately paid over to the trustees of the Loan Office £1,000, the amount of their joint bond, which was about half the sum embezzled. This episode gave an opportunity for an anti-Catholic outbreak in the Lower House, because Darnall, unquestionably always a Catholic at heart, had outwardly conformed to the Established Church in order to hold public office. Sharpe had been asked in 1755 to remove him as Attorney-General on religious grounds, but had refused to do so (*Arch. Md.* LII, 159-160). This sensational scandal is treated fully in a later section (pp. lv-lviii).

At this session there was made the first thorough examination of the accounts of the Loan Office that had been made during the life of this Assembly. Repeated attempts by the joint committee of the two houses to audit these accounts had been prevented by the prolonged illness of Richard Dorsey, the