

At the 1763 session George Beall, one of the owners of land upon which George Town, then in Frederick County but now in the District of Columbia, had been erected in 1751, petitioned the Assembly that an injury had been done to him by an "undue survey made in laying out" that town. Bealle and the town commissioners were summoned to appear before the bar of the house, but after Bealle had been heard, his petition was disallowed (pp. 340, 354, 368).

A petition was presented at the 1763 session in the Upper House by "Several the Inhabitants of Baltimore County praying a Town may be erected near the Mouth of the Susquehannah in the said County and called Charlotte Town", but the petition was promptly rejected (p. 232). Doubtless this "paper town" which seems to have died aborning, as it is not heard of again, was to have been located on or near the site of what is now Havre de Grace, Harford County, which was not erected into a town until the year 1785. It will be recalled that at the 1762 session Rebecca Stokes had petitioned the Assembly praying the erection of a town on the tract Harmer's Town, and that her petition had been rejected (p. 20). It is quite possible that there was a close connection between these two petitions. It is of interest that Charlotte Town was not a new name for a Baltimore County town, for some two decades earlier, about 1744, Thomas Brerewood (d. 1746), lord of My Lady's Manor, a tract of over ten thousand acres, lying about twenty-five miles to the west of the mouth of the Susquehanna, gave the name of Charlotte Town to a short-lived "private" town he had laid out on My Lady's Manor, without an enabling act of the Assembly, and named in honor of his wife Charlotte Calvert (1702-1744), the daughter of Benedict Leonard Calvert, Fourth Lord Baltimore. It is probable, however, that the town at the mouth of the Susquehanna was to be named in honor of Queen Charlotte, who had recently become the wife of George III.

A petition was presented at the 1763 session, signed by 123 inhabitants of Somerset County, asking for the passage of legislation relating to the town of Salisbury, located at the head of Wicomico River in that county. The petition recited that an act had been passed at the 1732 Assembly for erecting this town on fifteen acres of land at Handy's or Carr's Landing and dividing it into twenty lots, and declared that although the town was commodiously situated for trade and navigation few lots had been taken up because of defects in the act. The petition prayed that the law of 1732 be repealed and a new act for promoting the advantages of the town, to be framed by the petitioners, be passed. This petition with its signers is printed in full in the Appendix (pp. 581-582). A bill to this end was passed by the Lower House, and rejected in the Upper House, the reason for its rejection not being disclosed by the record (pp. 364, 252, 331, 338, 354, 375). It is likely that the bill was in some way considered hostile to the Proprietary interest.

Two petitions from widows asking the enactment of legislation relating to land were presented in the Upper House at this session and both were rejected (p.260). Catherine Scott, widow, of Frederick County, prayed that a bill "be brought in to make over the Land therein Mentioned upon paying