

continued at the November, 1766, session (Hanson's *Laws of Maryland made since MDCCLXIII; 1787*; acts of December 1766, chapter iii); (7) to aid defective common recoveries; passed by the Lower House; an act of the same title was passed at the November, 1766, session (Hanson's *Laws of Maryland made since MDCCLXIII; 1787*; acts of November 1766, chapter xxi) (pp. 150, 153, 179, 185, 50, 61, 77, 79); (8) "to prevent Lands and Stock appropriated to the Use of Iron Works being divided into Dower and Thirds, and to enable Women under Age to preclude themselves from Dower and Thirds by Agreement before Marriage with their intended Husbands" (pp. 172, 176); the purport of this act, other than what is indicated by the title, is not disclosed, but one may assume that the dower rights of the widow of some joint owner of one of the several important iron companies of the Province, by her claims for dower, had, on some recent occasion, entailed upon the other joint owners considerable legal difficulties. The bill was laid on the table where it apparently slept.

*Summary of legislation.* Little new legislation of importance was enacted at this session. In all twenty-five new acts, of which two were private laws, were passed; and fourteen old laws about to expire were continued. Many of these new acts have already been discussed, or are referred to elsewhere in this introduction. Six laws relating to churches and parishes were enacted. Authority was given to the visitors of the Kent County School to lease school land (pp. 296-297). There were acts: for the further enlargement of Baltimore Town (Howard's Addition) (p. 263); to encourage the growing of flax and hemp for the manufacture of linen (pp. 267-269); to validate a lease of land in Baltimore Town for a market and to authorize regulations for its management (pp. 305-309); for the relief of sundry prisoners languishing in county jails for debt (pp. 278-282); for licensing dogs (pp. 274-278). Acts of a purely local nature were also passed: one authorizing the construction of a road from Hunting Creek, Dorchester County to Dover, Talbot County, to connect with the ferry kept at Dover by Henry Troth (pp. 285-286); another relating to the killing of crows, squirrels, and red foxes in certain counties (pp. 309-311). Two acts were passed relating to the courts: one increased the pay of jurors attending the provincial and county courts (pp. 303-305); the other revived cases pending in the Cecil County court which had been terminated when commissions for a new bench in that county were issued (pp. 270-271). Two acts relating to legal procedure were passed: one of these acts provided that local and foreign protested bills of exchange rank alike as debts (p. 264); the other supplemented an act for limitation of certain actions for voiding suits at law by depriving those persons absent from the Province of any advantage because of their absence (p. 283). The usual act for the publication of the new laws passed at recent sessions and of the Votes and Proceedings of the Lower House, styled an act "for the encouragement of Jonas Green, the public printer," was passed (pp. 311-314). A law was passed authorizing the trustees of the Loan Office to purchase for the use of both houses of Assembly from some London merchant, at a cost of not over £25 sterling, a record book, parchment paper, ink powder, and quills (p. 322).