

coroner for holding inquests upon those dead by misadventure, room rent in houses or inns where court was held, bridge construction, board and care in private homes of the poor, the sick, and the infirm, and the care of orphan infants, bounties for wolves' heads, the custody of the standards of weights and measures, powder and shot for public defense, moving the stocks and pillory, the cost of building the court house and prison, and various other items. The levies for the years 1666, 1669, 1671, 1672, and 1674, are to be found recorded (pp. 40, 229, 347-348, 431, 586-587); the failure to enter the levies for 1667, 1668, and 1673, was doubtless due to unsettled conditions in the clerk's office during these years. The figures for the number of taxables for the five years entered are: 1666—548; 1669—668; 1671—736; 1672—722; 1674—783. A rough estimate of the total population of Charles County in 1665, based on the increases in the number of taxables, is 1500; the population in 1674 appears to have increased to about 2100. It may be added that there were as yet very few negroes in the Province. There is only one mention of a negro slave in this nine year record (p. 134).

Some of the more important items to be found in the levies may be summarized. The levy for 1671 shows that Edmund Lindsay (Lendsey), the Portobacco innkeeper and planter, was paid 1000 pounds of tobacco "for the trouble of his house for keeping the court" (pp. 347-348); and the following year Benjamin Rozer, the sheriff, received 450 pounds "while court was kept at his house" (p. 431). Where the court was held in other years is not disclosed. After 1674 the court sessions were doubtless held in the new court house. In the year 1671, Ignatius Causine, the coroner, received 750 pounds of tobacco as his fee for holding "three inquests upon the death of Servants" (pp. 347-348). The 1672 levy shows that 10,000 pounds of tobacco was provided to build a court house (p. 341), but this was not then carried out as a later record tells us that a court house was provided for under a different appropriation. The 1674 levy provided 20,000 pounds of tobacco "for a Ct. House & Prison" (pp. 586-587). The levy for 1669 shows that William Boardman received 3000 pounds of tobacco for making a bridge, and the 1674 levy discloses another payment to him for a bridge, this time 7500 pounds of tobacco (pp. 229, 586, 587). All the levies show payments of bounties for wolves' heads. Down to the year 1671, this bounty was 100 pounds of tobacco for each head, but in October, 1671, the General Assembly increased the bounty to 200 pounds. The number of bounties paid varied year by year from a minimum of ten to a maximum of twenty-seven.

Under the act of 1671, Henry Adams had been appointed Keeper of the Standards of Weights and Measures for Charles County, and 1600 pounds of tobacco had been allowed him for their purchase (*Arch. Md.* II; 279-281); the levy for 1671 shows the payment to him of this amount (p. 347), and the levy for 1672 of 400 pounds additional to complete the purchase (p. 431). It may be noted that, as in more recent times, the assessment upon each taxable for the nine year period covered by this record, shows a rapid year by year increase. In 1666, it was 21 pounds of tobacco for each taxable; in 1674, it had reached 105 pounds for each, the large increase in the latter year being in great part due to the cost of the new court house and the bridge.