

these records, but Dulany said that as to any specific records requested by the gentlemen who formed the committee as *individuals*, he would be glad to furnish them copies. It may be added that nothing further was heard of this demand.

It has been said with some truth that Maryland did not react as violently against the Stamp Act as did some of the northern colonies. This is unquestionably true, but most of those who repeat this charge in a derogatory way, lose sight of the fact that the people of Maryland were more immediately interested in the century-old struggle against what they called Proprietary exactions and pretensions, which affected them both spiritually and economically, and it was to the Crown alone that they could look for possible relief from their grievances. The passage of the Stamp Act has been a jolt to this shortsighted point of view, but when American protests so promptly brought Parliamentary relief, Marylanders were ready to forget their grievances against the mother country and to again take up their quarrels with the Proprietary. Echoes of the Stamp Act excitement are to be found in the proceedings of the Assembly in 1766. A bill to reimburse the Annapolis stamp distributor, Zachariah Hood, who had been hanged in effigy, for damages done to his property by the mob, and also for the payment of damages to the owner of the house which he rented as an office, passed both houses apparently without dissenting votes.

The Lower House bill, known as the "Act of Gratitude", in which was expressed the appreciation of the Province to those leaders in Parliament who had opposed the passage of the Stamp Act and helped to secure its repeal, would certainly also have passed the Upper House, had there not been an impasse between the two houses, not as to the principle involved, but because under the bill the Lower House not only assumed exclusive control of its administration, but refused to allow the upper chamber to make any amendments whatever in it on the ground that it was a bill appropriating money. Under the terms of the rejected "Act of Gratitude" a marble statue of Pitt, Earl of Chatham, and a portrait of Platt, Lord Camden, were to be ordered and set up in Annapolis; and incorporated in it were resolutions expressive of the esteem in which were held certain other prominent members of Parliament named in the measure who aided repeal. Both houses, however, sent separate addresses to George III, thanking him for his aid in furthering repeal.

Towards the close of our three-year period, Parliament passed the Townshend Acts, imposing import duties on tea and various other articles brought into the colonies, but as these acts had not yet been enforced, their far reaching significance was not appreciated, and little attention was paid to them until a letter from the Massachusetts House of Representatives relating to them was