

been set for a Standing Committee in all times hereafter during the Recess of Assemblies, for a Pretence for such Committees being appointed would never be wanting." The Governor went on to say that the Council therefore refused, and the Register of the Secretary's office was directed to refuse, to allow a general search of the records under his care, and Daniel Dulany, the Secretary of the Province, so notified the committee. The Governor wrote that had the Lower House thought fit to address him for an order to "discover" to designated gentlemen transcripts of the records, they would have been supplied, but that he would not allow a committee appointed by the Lower House to rummage the offices and remove from them books or papers, especially those of the Privy Council (*Arch. Md.* XIV, 385, 386). Hanckley, in a letter in reply, dated July 20, 1767, commenting on this, said that there was no precedent for the claim that the Lower House has a right to call for the production of original public records, and that no such claim has ever been made by Parliament, nor has it ever asserted a right to continue its investigation of public affairs during a recess (*ibid.* 406-407).

The proceedings of the Council for February 19, 1767, show that the Committee of the Lower House, under this date, wrote to the clerk or register of the Secretary's office, of which Daniel Dulany was Secretary, requesting him to bring before the committee certain records and, at the same time, sent him a certified copy of the Resolves of the Lower House upon which they based their authority to do so. A meeting of the Council was called and Dulany read to it a letter that had been written by him to the committee, which the Council approved. In this letter Dulany declared that as Provincial Secretary he had given a large bond for the security and care of the records in his office; that after the Lower House is prorogued its authority ceases during the recess, and that this authority cannot be continued to particular members of the house by a Resolve which is not concurred in by the Upper House; that his authority as Secretary is derived from the Proprietary alone and not from the Assembly, and that the custody of books and papers is in him alone; that he cannot comply with their request as a Committee, but that as individuals, assuming no authority, it will be a pleasure to him to comply with any reasonable request to examine records that they may make (*Arch. Md.* XXXII, 180-185).

Later references by the Governor to this matter indicate that he believed that the demand for books and papers was not made in good faith and with the view that it would be complied with, but that the Lower House, finding that it could not raise sufficient funds for the immediate support of an agent in Great Britain by popular subscription and by the "Liberty Lottery", sought to give to the public the impression that their appeal to the Crown for its backing to secure a support for such an agent had been frustrated, not because of the failure of these schemes, but because they were not allowed to have access to the records upon which a proper presentation of their case could be made to the Crown.

PARISHES, CHURCHES, CHAPELS, CLERGYMEN, AND RELIGION

An earnest endeavor was made by both houses of the Assembly at the 1768 session to establish some form of supervision and discipline over the clergy of