

Adair, the last three being Baltimore County delegates, and ordered to bring in a bill (pp. 354-355). This bill, brought in by John Moale two days later on June 8th, was entitled, "An Act for erecting a Court house and public prison in Baltimore County in the town of Baltimore and for making a sale of the old Court House and Prison" (p. 361). This was followed by its passage on June 10th by vote of 40 to 4, Buchanan, Bordley, Deye, and Beale still voting in the negative, and Paca not voting (pp. 368, 389). On the same day, June 8th, that the bill for removal was brought into the Lower House, the Upper House, at the request of Benjamin Rogers of Baltimore on behalf of those favoring Baltimore Town, requested the house to issue a summons through Daniel Chamier, the Sheriff of Baltimore County, to Colonel William Young, Corbin Lee, William Aisquith, and William Cox, to appear before the Upper House and to testify the truth of what they know of certain facts set forth in a petition against the removal of the Court House to Baltimore; and the request was granted and a hearing ordered for June 16th (p. 298). This hearing extended over a two-day period in which "the House proceeded in taking the Testimony of Evidences upon the Petition for and against Removal of the Court House—and heard Council for and against", and on June 17th passed the bill which the Lower House had already approved (pp. 306-308). An incident of some interest as bearing on legal ethics occurred in the Lower House after the bill had passed that body, and while hearings on it were still being held in the Upper House. Thomas Jenings (1736-1796) of Annapolis, a young lawyer of outstanding ability who later in the same year became Attorney General of the Province, and who represented Frederick County in the Lower House, was chairman of the committee having the bill in charge. Although he had voted for removal, he now asked leave to attend the hearing in the Upper House as counsel for those opposing removal. This proposal seemed too much for the house to stomach, for it refused by a vote of 40 to 2 to allow him to do so, only Chase and Gresham, both of whom had voted for removal, being in favor of this professional switch (pp. 387-388). The passage of this act gave additional impetus to the development of Baltimore as a great port and as one of the leading cities of the Atlantic seaboard.

The petitions to the Assembly for and against the removal of the county seat, Joppa, to Baltimore Town are printed in the Appendix (pp. 520-580). The former set forth many reasons urged for removal that are not to be found in the preamble of the act providing for it. An exact count of the signers, for and against, is not possible as some of the petitions are defective and it seems likely that others are missing. A contemporary tabulation shows 2271 signers in favor of removal (pp. 523, 564); and a count shows 901 against. We learn from one of the petitions against removal that there were then 8256 taxables in Baltimore County. As "taxables" embraced all males over sixteen years of age, including negro slaves and white indentured servants as well as female slaves over sixteen, it seems certain that the 3172 inhabitants who signed petitions included practically all of the males of the county twenty-one years and over, whose signatures would influence the Assembly in making the decision.

The petitions favoring removal were circulated as *printed* broadside sheets: