

the claim made by the Delegates that the publication of Acts of Parliament in the province by proclamation was without precedent. If the Lower House was unwilling to make any allowance for this publication now, the Councillors were willing to refer the matter to a future session (pp. 22, 83). It is interesting to note that when the same subject did come up again at a later session, the Delegates resolved unanimously that no allowance should be made to the Governor for seals to proclamations of Acts of Parliament (p. 232).

On November 21, 1769, the Lower House sent a message to Eden in which they congratulated him on his appointment as Governor. As to his plan for a better academy for the instruction of colonial youths, the Delegates said that they hoped that they would be excused from considering the matter at this time when "the severe Season of the Year" was fast approaching (pp. 42-43). On the following day, November 22, Eden formally thanked the Lower House for their message (p. 47).

The Lower House had some complaints to make to the Governor. Near the close of the 1769 session they addressed Eden giving an account of their proceedings against Richard Lee, Jr., Sheriff of Charles County. The Delegates asked that Lee should be removed from office. The Governor promised to make a full enquiry of the justness of the complaint against Lee (pp. 86-88, 91). The case of Sheriff Lee is discussed later in more detail (pp. xxxiv-xxxv.)

On the closing day of the session, December 20, the members of the Lower House complained to Governor Eden about the failure of the sheriffs in some of the counties to pay money derived from various licenses, such as those for innkeepers and pedlars. The Delegates asked that the bonds of the negligent sheriffs "be put in suit immediately." The Governor promised to give the matter his attention (pp. 115, 118).

While, as we have seen, the Lower House was unwilling to make any allowance to the Governor for seals to proclamations of Acts of Parliament, and also wished to postpone the consideration of an educational institution, relations between the Delegates and Eden had been maintained on a cordial basis. While this cordiality continued to characterize their dealings, there now occurred an incident that led the Governor to prorogue the Assembly. This was when, on December 19, 1769, there was introduced in the Lower House a letter from Peyton Randolph, Speaker of the Virginia House of Burgesses, addressed to the Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates. Randolph enclosed copies of resolutions adopted on May 16, 1769, by the Virginia House of Burgesses, which he was sending to the speakers of the several houses of assembly of the different colonies. Although the Virginia Governor had dissolved the Virginia Assembly, Randolph hoped that the King would interpose and view with favor the claims made by the Burgesses in their resolutions.

In these resolutions the Virginians maintained; first, that the sole right of imposing taxes in the colony was vested in the House of Burgesses with the consent of the Council, and of the King, or his Governor; second, that it was an "undoubted Privilege" of the people of Virginia to petition their sovereign for the redress of grievances, and to procure the concurrence of other colonies in such matters; third, that all trials for treason, misprision of treason, or for