

In order to enable these various committees to function properly, clerks were appointed to assist them in the performance of their duties. On October 3, the day following the opening of the session in 1771, the Lower House selected Thomas Brooke Hodgkin and William Wright as clerks "to the several Committees." They had to swear not to divulge the secrets of the House or of any committee (pp. 83-84). Hodgkin had acted as committee clerk during the session of the General Assembly held in 1770 (*Arch. Md.* LXII, xx). Sometime later Wright was at his own request discharged from any further attendance as a committee clerk (p. 209).

Other men who were appointed committee clerks were St. George Peale (pp. 84, 85), James Hackman and John Courts Jones (p. 98). About a month later Hackman was excused from any further duties as a committee clerk (p. 144). James Brooks was another man appointed a committee clerk during the session of the Assembly which met during the fall of 1771 (p. 106). He had served as one during the 1769 session of the General Assembly (*Arch. Md.* LXII, xx).

During the session of the Assembly, which met from June 15 to July 3, in 1773, Thomas Brooke Hodgkin, John Courts Jones (pp. 339, 341), St. George Peale, Thomas Maddox and Robert Wright were appointed committee clerks (pp. 351, 353-354). Before the session ended Wright was discharged as a clerk (p. 380).

Sometimes joint committees composed of members of both the Upper and Lower Houses were appointed to consider some important bill. The most important instance of this was when during the session which met in the fall of 1771 such a committee was appointed to consider the bill entitled "An Act for amending the Staple of Tobacco for preventing Frauds in his Majestys Customs and for the Limitation of Officers Fees" (pp. 18, 135-138). The meeting of this joint committee is discussed elsewhere (pp. xxvii-xxxi). Another joint committee appointed during the 1771 session was for the purpose of inspecting "the Office and Proceedings of the Commissioners for emitting Bills of Credit" (pp. 6, 7, 83, 85). A similar joint committee was appointed during the session of the General Assembly which met in June and July of 1773. In all such cases the Upper and Lower Houses would notify each other of their respective appointees to such a committee (pp. 312, 340, 342).

CHAPLAINS

As has been pointed out in a previous volume, this is a convenient way of designating the Anglican ministers in Maryland who performed duties similar to the modern chaplain (*Arch. Md.* LXII, xx). On October 3, the day after the Assembly convened in 1771, the Reverend (Jonathan) Boucher was requested by the members of the Lower House to read divine service every morning during the session at quarter past eight (p. 83). Boucher had performed the same duties at the session of the General Assembly which met from September 25 to November 2, in the year 1770 (*Arch. Md.* LXII, xx). There is no record of who acted as chaplain at the meeting of the Assembly in June-July, 1773.