

Before proroguing the General Assembly on November 30, 1771, which had been in session since October 2, Eden again referring to his proclamation said that he was disappointed by the mistaken construction the Delegates had placed on his action in issuing it. It was for benefit of the people of Maryland, his Excellency maintained (pp. 236-237).

It was not until June 15, 1773, that the General Assembly met again and when it did the relations between the Governor and the legislative bodies were more friendly. In his opening address to the members of the Upper and Lower House Governor Eden spoke of the death of Frederick Calvert and the succession of the new Lord Proprietary, Henry Harford. Eden was pleased that he had been continued as Governor under the new Proprietary and promised that he will always try "to promote the General Good of Maryland . . ." (pp. 310, 335-336, 342-344).

In a separate message to the Delegates of the Lower House Governor Eden said that if this time of the year was unsatisfactory, he would prorogue the Assembly to a time more convenient for their private affairs. If, however, the deputies were willing to go ahead, he would concur with both the Upper and Lower Houses in passing such acts as might be "conducive to the Publick Utility" (pp. 310, 336).

In reply the members of the Lower House informed his Excellency that while the time was inconvenient to the private affairs of many of them, yet as the Governor had thought it proper to convene them, "the peculiar State of the Province" had determined them to proceed to business. On their part, the Delegates promised to make every effort to enact such laws as might promote the general welfare (p. 344). On the following day Eden thanked the members of the Lower House for their address and added that he sincerely hoped the welfare of the province may be furthered by prudent and salutary laws (p. 346).

On June 18, 1773, the Upper House replying to Eden's message at the opening session on June 15 said that they were pleased that his Excellency had been reappointed Governor and that they were sure that he would continue to advance the prosperity of the colony (pp. 317, 318).

It was not until July 2, the day before the closing day of this session, that the Lower House in a series of resolutions revived some of the issues which had embittered the relations between Governor Eden and the lower chamber during the sessions held in 1771. These resolutions reiterated some of those which had been adopted by the Delegates during the two sessions held in 1770: two of them supported the right of the Lower House to arrest William Steuart and others the sole right of the lower chamber, with the assent of the Upper House, to impose and establish fees or taxes (p. 388; *Arch. Md.* LXII, 301, 431). And, on July 2, the Lower House again asserted that the Governor's proclamation of November 26, 1770, and his instructions of November 24 regarding the Land Office were illegal and unconstitutional. All these resolutions were ordered printed in the *Maryland Gazette* for the next six weeks (pp. 388-389).

Apparently Eden decided that he did not want to renew this controversy with the Lower House. Ignoring the above resolutions, he decided to prorogue the General Assembly until October 11, 1773, giving as his reason the absence of so