

October 22, 1771, that the Delegates resolved themselves into a Committee of the Whole House to take into consideration the expediency and the ways and means of issuing bills of credit for the improvement of the province and the advancement of trade (pp. 118, 119). Three days later the Lower House approved the appropriation of a sum for establishing a "Seminary of Learning" in the province and ordered that leave be given to bring in a bill for a further emission of bills of credit (pp. 127-128). This bill was finally passed and sent to the Upper House (pp. 158-160).

There on November 9 an amendment was proposed to the bill (pp. 28, 160). When the bill with the amendment was returned to the Lower House, the Delegates sent a message to the upper chamber in which they said that they were much concerned that the Upper House always proposed amendments to the money bills which they sent to them. As the Lower House claimed the exclusive right to draw up such bills, they had rejected the amendment which the upper chamber had suggested (p. 176).

In their reply, the members of the Upper House would not admit the claim of the Delegates regarding money bills. They maintained that there were not only instances of amendment of money bills by them, but also of such bills being framed by a committee of both Houses and that even some money bills had originated in the Upper House (pp. 34-35, 181). No further action appears to have been taken on this bill at the October–November, 1771, session.

LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENTS

NEW GENERAL ACTS OR NEW ACTS SUPPLEMENTARY TO OLD ACTS

As the name implies such acts applied to the province as a whole. During the General Assembly, which met from October 2 to November 30, 1771, one law of that character, or type, was entitled "An Act for imposing a further additional Duty of five Pounds Current Money per Poll on all Negroes imported into this Province." Half of this sum was to be applied to the use of the county schools within the colony (pp. 242-243). It was supplementary to a similar act passed in 1763 (*Arch. Md.* LVIII, 512; *ibid.* LXI, 232).

Another general law passed at this session was "An Act for vesting in such foreign Protestants as are now naturalized or shall be hereafter naturalized in this Province all the Rights & Privileges of natural born Subjects" (p. 238).

Three acts, passed at October–November, 1771, session of the General Assembly referred to courts to which all could appeal and therefore the laws in question might be termed general acts. Two of these statutes provided for "the Adjournment & Continuance of the High Court of Appeals." Circumstances made such a step necessary. The first adjournment was "until the third Friday in November next" and the second postponement was "until second Tuesday in February next" (pp. 239, 279). The third law was entitled "An Act for preventing trivial Suits in the Provincial Court." It sought to compel plaintiffs to sue in the county courts where the sum involved did not amount to more than twenty pounds sterling (p. 247).

Although they referred to persons, two laws enacted during the fall session of 1771 can be classified as general laws. One of these was entitled "An Act