

what they considered a competent provision for the support of the clergy in the Province. Later on the same day they resolved that "a Tax of Thirty-two Pounds of Tobacco per Poll be assessed . . . on each Taxable . . . payable in Tobacco at Thirty, or if in Money at Four Shillings Common Currency at the Option of" the taxable, and they set up a committee to prepare and bring in such a bill. Chase and Paca, who had argued against the constitutionality of the Act of 1702, were on the committee (p. 132). The bill was introduced the following day, and the day after that, December 16, it was passed and sent to the Upper House. Here it was passed as quickly as the rules permitted (p. 77) and was sealed by the Governor December 23, the last day of the session. The act, that thus, for a time, settled the old controversy, is short (pp. 254-256). By it, each taxable paid yearly thirty pounds of inspected tobacco in inspector's notes or the gold or silver value of thirty-two pounds of tobacco. The tax was collected by the sheriff of the county, and the proceeds were paid over by him to the incumbents. It was formally provided that the act should not in any way influence the question of the validity of the Act of 1702.

One of the signers of the address presented by the Maryland clergymen was the Rev. Mr. Robert Read, then of St. Paul's Parish, Kent County, who had once been at Coventry and All Hallows, Somerset (Allen: Clergy in Maryland, MHS copy, p. xviii). Immediately upon the passage of the act "For the Support of the Clergy," Read inserted into the *Maryland Gazette* an advertisement that ran for several months.

"Kent county, Jan. 5, 1774.

"The subscriber's salary being lessened in value almost one half by an act passed the last session, for the support of the clergy of the church of England in this province; he finds it necessary for the support of his family and other purposes, to join to his ministerial office some other business. He has therefore opened a grammar school at his house in Kent county, about five miles from Rock-Hall, where gentlemen may have their sons boarded, and taught the latin and greek tongues, and other parts of literature in the best manner, at thirty pounds per annum, and the greatest care taken of them. ROBERT READ."

One more old controversy was settled in this November session: the matter of the salary for the clerk of the Council. For ten years, 1756-1766, the journal of accounts had not been passed and the public creditors had not been paid because of the complete disagreement on the inclusion of the clerk's salary. The Upper House and the Proprietary wanted him paid out of the public treasury, the Lower House as vigorously insisted that, since the Council was the creature of the Proprietary, its clerk should be paid by him. In 1766 a temporizing solution was reached, and bills of credit to the amount of the salary of the Council clerk were to be lodged with the treasurers until the King in Council should decide who should pay it. No decision was given, and in 1773 the matter was still unsettled. When the journal of accounts came up to the Upper House on December 22, it contained no salary for the clerk of the council as such, although the same person, as clerk of the Upper House, was paid therein. The Upper House suggested to the Lower House that there