

voter of the State for only the five years preceding his election (Chapter 532, Acts of 1970).

Elected Under the Constitution of 1776 by the Legislature for One Year<sup>1</sup>

1777-1779. Thomas Johnson. No Party. Born in Calvert County, November 4, 1732, the son of Thomas Johnson and wife Dorcas Sedgewick. Resident of Anne Arundel County when elected. Episcopalian. Married Ann Jennings. Died at Rose Hill, Frederick County, October 26, 1819. Buried in Mount Olivet Cemetery, Frederick.

1779-1782. Thomas Sim Lee. No Party. Born in Prince George's County, October 29, 1745, the son of Thomas Lee and wife Christian Sim. Roman Catholic. Married Mary Digges. Died at Needwood, Frederick County, October 9, 1819. Buried in the Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Upper Marlboro.

1782-1785. William Paca. No Party. Born near Abingdon, Harford County, October 31, 1740, the son of John Paca and wife Elizabeth Smith. Resident of Queen Anne's County when elected. Episcopalian. Married (1) Mary Lloyd Chew; (2) Anne Harrison. Died at Wye Hall, Queen Anne's County, October 13, 1799. Buried at Wye Hall, Queen Anne's County.

1785-1788. William Smallwood. No Party. Thought to have been born in Charles County in 1732, the son of Bayne Smallwood and wife Priscilla Heaberd. Resident of Charles County when elected. Episcopalian. Unmarried. Died at Mattawoman, February 14, 1792. Buried at Smallwood's Retreat, Charles County.

1788-1791. John Eager Howard. Federalist. Born in Baltimore, June 4, 1752, the son of Cornelius Howard and wife Ruth Eager. Episcopalian. Married Peggy Chew. Died in Baltimore, October 12, 1827. Buried in Old St. Paul's Cemetery, Baltimore.

1791-1792. George Plater. Federalist. Born in St. Mary's County, November 8, 1735, the son of George Bowles Plater and wife Rebecca Addison. Episcopalian. Married (1) Hannah Lee; (2) Elizabeth Rousby. Died in Annapolis, February 10, 1792. Buried at Sotterley, St. Mary's County.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Under the Constitution of 1776, the Governor was elected annually on the second Monday in November. He could be reelected for two additional terms. Thomas Johnson, the State's first governor, was elected on February 13, 1777, after the Constitution of 1776 became operative.

<sup>2</sup> James Brice of Annapolis (August 26, 1746-July 11, 1801), the first named of the governor's Council, became acting governor on the death of Governor Plater on February 10, 1792. He served until April 2 of the same year when Thomas Sim Lee was elected for the balance of the unexpired term.

1792-1794. Thomas Sim Lee. Federalist. *See above.*

1794-1797. John H. Stone. Federalist. Born in Charles County in 1745, the son of David Stone and wife (first name unknown) Jenifer. Episcopalian. Married Mary Couden. Died in Annapolis, October 5, 1804. Thought to have been buried in Annapolis.

1797-1798. John Henry. Federalist. Born at Weston, Dorchester County, in November 1750, the son of Col. John Henry and wife Dorothy Rider. Episcopalian. Married Margaret Campbell. Died at Weston, Dorchester County, December 16, 1798. Buried in Christ Protestant Episcopal Church Cemetery, Cambridge.

1798-1801. Benjamin Ogle. Federalist. Born in Annapolis, January 27, 1749, the son of Samuel Ogle and wife Anne Tasker. Episcopalian. Married Henny (Henrietta) Margaret Hill. Died in Annapolis, July 6, 1809. Buried on his farm near Annapolis.

1801-1803. John Francis Mercer. Democrat. Born at Marlborough, Stafford County, Virginia, May 17, 1759, the son of John Mercer and wife Anne Roy. Resident of Anne Arundel County when elected. Episcopalian. Married Sophia Sprigg. Died in Philadelphia, August 30, 1821. Buried at Cedar Park, Anne Arundel County.

1803-1806. Robert Bowie. Democrat. Born at Mattaponi, Prince George's County, March 1750, the son of Capt. William Bowie and wife Margaret Sprigg. Episcopalian. Married Priscilla Mackall. Died at Mattaponi, Prince George's County, January 8, 1818. Buried at Mattaponi, Prince George's County.

1806-1809. Robert Wright. Democrat. Born in Queen Anne's County, November 20, 1752, the son of Solomon Wright and wife Mary Tidmarsh. Episcopalian. Married (1) Sarah DeCoursey; (2) (first name unknown) Ringgold. Died at Blakeford, Queen Anne's County, September 7, 1826. Buried at Cheston-on-Wye, Queen Anne's County.<sup>3</sup>

1809-1811. Edward Lloyd. Democrat. Born in Talbot County, July 22, 1779, the son of Edward Lloyd and wife Elizabeth Tayloe. Episcopalian. Married Sally Scott Murray. Died in Annapolis, June 2, 1834. Buried at Wye House, Talbot County.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Governor Wright resigned on May 6, 1809. James Butcher (died January 12, 1824), of Queen Anne's County and the first named of the governor's Council, became acting governor. He served as such until June 5, 1809, when Edward Lloyd qualified. Little else is known about James Butcher.

<sup>4</sup> By Chapter 211, Acts of 1811, ratified in 1812, the date for the election of the governor was changed to the second Monday in December.