

there were differences in the requirement of the presence of justices of the quorum to constitute a court; there were no justices of the quorum named for the Court of Appeals or, apparently, for the Provincial Court, but only for the county courts. The only rules governing the organization of the Court of Appeals were those concerning the presiding officer in the absence of the Governor. In England all justices alike came later to be named of the quorum, so that the distinction was lost, but this did not occur in the commissioning of justices of the Maryland county courts; the distinction was preserved. The commissions were all issued to the justices of each body jointly, to the members of the Council, the justices of the Provincial Court, and those of the several county courts respectively. All these officers were appointed to hold office at the pleasure of the Governor only, but actually councillors and judges were often re-appointed and continued in office many years, especially toward the end of the proprietary government. The numbers of those commissioned varied in time. The Council, beginning with three members in 1636, numbered nine in 1681, after 1692 numbered twelve, and after the middle of the following century increased to fourteen. A similar growth of numbers on the Provincial and county courts took place, those in the former reaching ten and in the county courts twenty and more. The proceedings in the courts were conducted with dignity; the greatest days in the year in the counties were those of the sittings of the county courts. The privilege of sitting as one of the justices, the "Worshipful the Commissioners