

1817). Mary was the granddaughter of *Benjamin Tasker* (ca. 1690–1768). She was the niece of *Benjamin Tasker, Jr.* (1720/21–1760); Rebecca Tasker (1724–1822), who married *Daniel Dulany, Jr.* (1722–1797). Her brothers were Samuel (1747–1748); *Benjamin Ogle* (1748/49–1809). Her sisters were Anne (1743–1747); Meliora (1750–1775), who married James Anderson of Hertfordshire, England. Her first cousins were *Benjamin Tasker Dulany* (1752–1816); Rebecca Lowndes (1757–1802), who married *Benjamin Stoddert* (ca. 1751–1813). **CHILDREN.** SONS: Samuel (ca. 1765–1840), a lawyer, who married in 1790 Mary Grafton Addison; Horatio, who married first, in 1791, Rachel (?–1811), daughter of *Robert Goldsborough* (1733–1788), and second, in 1812, Ann, daughter of *John Weems* (1727–1794). **DAUGHTERS:** Ann (ca. 1766–1821), who married in 1785 *John Gibson* (?–1819); Meliora Ogle (1780–1781). **PRIVATE CAREER.** **EDUCATION:** graduate of Oxford University, 1749. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Anglican. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Esq., by 1753. Ridout served as secretary to Governor Sharpe (1718–1790). Before his marriage, Ridout lived with Sharpe and they maintained their close association and friendship afterward. Sharpe's patronage was an important influence in Ridout's political and social life in Maryland. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** placeman/officeholder, planter, landholder; occasionally involved in mercantile ventures. After the Revolution, Ridout hoped to add to his income by importing goods from Europe and selling them to retail merchants. The venture was unsuccessful for all concerned and the accounts took ten years to settle. **PUBLIC CAREER.** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Upper House, 1761 (appointed before the 3rd Convention of the 1758–1761 Assembly), 1762–1763, 1765–1766, 1768–1770, 1771, 1773–1774. **OTHER PROVINCIAL OFFICES:** Council, 1760–1776 (appointed and qualified on October 22, 1760); deputy secretary of Maryland, 1760–1761; commissary general, 1761–1762 (resigned); riding surveyor, Bohemia and Sassafras, Cecil County, 1761–1768 (resigned because he could not live at his post); naval officer, Annapolis, 1762–1777. **STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES:** generally regarded as a Loyalist during the Revolution, but signed the Oath of Fidelity prior to July 25, 1778. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** listed as a bachelor in St. Anne's Parish, Anne Arundel County, with an estate of over £300.0.0, 1756–1763; assessed value £2,457.13.0, including 34 slaves and 538 oz. plate. Anne Arundel and Washington counties, 1783. This assessment reflects the slaves,

plate, and livestock at "Whitehall," which Ridout had purchased from *Horatio Sharpe* (1718–1790) in 1782. When Sharpe returned to England in 1773, he left the debts due him in America and the interest on them to Ridout. At Sharpe's death in 1790, the debts and interest outstanding amounted to £6,293.17.11 current money. **ANNUAL INCOME:** received the profits of surveyor general of the Western Shore from *Horatio Sharpe* (1718–1790), 1753–1760. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** none (although he held a warrant for land later patented in Frederick County). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** Ridout patented a 922-acre tract in Frederick (later Washington) County in 1761 (which was reduced to 829 acres by a resurvey in 1776) and two very small tracts in Anne Arundel County in 1762. Two years later he patented 250 acres in Baltimore County, and bought the first of his 2 lots on Duke of Gloucester Street in Annapolis, with the second lot being purchased in 1766. On these lots he built a substantial brick town house and, later, a series of three attached brick houses. In 1768 Ridout received a patent for 5,692 acres bordering on Tonoloway Creek and the Potomac River in Frederick (later Washington) County. He later resurveyed the land plus adjoining acreage and repatented it for a net gain of 1,203 acres. However, the tract was estimated to contain only ca. 4,000 acres in 1783. Ridout had managed Horatio Sharpe's plantation "Whitehall" from 1773, and in 1782 he purchased it (about 650 acres) along with 1,637 acres in Baltimore County and 1,000 acres in Washington County, which was the bulk of Sharpe's land in Maryland. The small Anne Arundel County tracts were sold by 1790, and in 1791 Ridout gave the 1,637-acre tract in Baltimore County to his daughter. During the six years before his death he sold almost all of the 829-acre tract in Washington County in a number of transactions. He was charged with ca. 300 acres in Allegany County in 1793. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** on October 6, 1797, at his house in Annapolis; buried at "Whitehall," Anne Arundel County. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** requested that no inventory or account be made of his estate. **LAND:** probably ca. 6,500 acres in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Washington, and Allegany counties, some of which he mentioned in his will as owning with John Ross, plus 2 lots in Annapolis and 1 lot in Bath, Virginia (now Berkeley Springs, West Virginia).

**RIGBY, JAMES** (ca. 1630–1681). **BORN:** ca. 1630. **IMMIGRATED:** ca. 1654, as an indentured servant.