

actually received the license fines only from June, 1717, to October, 1727, and from April, 1735, to June, 1740. Over Baltimore's protest the Assembly appropriated them in supply acts of 1740, 1746, and 1756. Ten years later, on the advice of Governor and Council, the proprietor expressly abandoned this claim.<sup>87</sup> By a law of June, 1768, the Assembly then applied these fines to defraying the public charge; and under this disposition they continued until 1780.

Sir Thomas Lawrence had valued the fines at about £ 150 sterling a year, but they were probably worth much less. County courts would fail to take good security for their payment, and the tobacco was often of poor quality. Moreover it lay dispersed in the several counties and had to be collected by the sheriffs. According to Governor and Council the fines produced a net income of about £ 63 sterling a year from 1703 to 1708.<sup>88</sup> They doubtless brought in somewhat more in the second proprietary period.

If we assume that Sir Thomas had a salary of £ 200 and rate the license fines at £ 70 a year, then the full net income of the Secretary in England, reckoned in sterling, was as follows:

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| £ 200 per year | 1706 through 1716 |
| 270 per year   | 1717 through 1727 |
| 200 per year   | 1728 through 1732 |
| 100 per year   | 1733 and 1734     |
| 170 per year   | 1735 through 1740 |
| 100 per year   | 1741 through 1751 |
| 450 per year   | 1752 and 1753     |
| 500 per year   | 1754 only and     |
| 650 per year   | 1755 through 1775 |

✓ If again we recall that from 1715 through 1732 this revenue was divided between joint incumbents, it will appear that the office was not one of great value until the appointment of Cecilius Calvert late in 1751. Thereafter the Principal Secretary's influence was so great that he could obtain a much augmented income at his appointment and could substantially increase it in later years.

<sup>87</sup> *Calvert Papers*, II, 239, 251; *Archives*, XXXII, 143-47; XIV, 308, 327-28, 354. For a more detailed treatment of the ordinary license fines as a political issue see Mereness, *op. cit.*, 353-60, and Barker, *op. cit.*, *passim*.

<sup>88</sup> *Archives*, XXV, 247-8; *Calendar of State Papers, Colonial, 1708-09*, art. 131.