

## VII

PETITIONS FOR AND AGAINST REMOVAL OF THE  
COUNTY SEAT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY FROM  
JOPPA TO BALTIMORE TOWN, 1768

*A. PETITIONS FOR REMOVAL OF THE COUNTY SEAT*

[THE PETITIONS FOR REMOVAL OF THE COUNTY SEAT FROM JOPPA TO BALTIMORE TOWN TOTAL FORTY-ONE IN NUMBER. THEY ARE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH IN THE INTRODUCTION (PP. lxxxvi-xc). THEY ARE ALL IN PRINTED BROADSIDE FORM, THE SIGNATURES FOLLOWING THE PRINTED TEXT, WHICH RECITES THE REASONS WHY REMOVAL WAS URGED. THESE BROADSIDES, PRINTED BY NICHOLAS HASSELBACH OF BALTIMORE, FALL INTO THREE GROUPS—TWO OF THESE GROUPS ARE PRINTED IN ENGLISH ALONE, AND ONE GROUP IN BOTH ENGLISH AND GERMAN. THE PHRASEOLOGY OF ALL PETITIONS IS THE SAME, BUT THERE ARE SLIGHT DIFFERENCES IN TYPE SET-UP, AND BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS PRINTED IN ENGLISH ALONE IN THE ABBREVIATIONS FOR WORDS. THESE DIFFERENCES ARE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL BY LAWRENCE WROTH IN HIS *A History of Printing in Colonial Maryland* (PP. 232-233). WROTH DESIGNATES THE MORE NUMEROUS OF THE TWO ENGLISH GROUPS, SOME THIRTY BROADSIDES, AS NO. 286; IN THE PETITIONS WHICH FOLLOW THESE ARE 1-28 AND 35-36. THE SMALLER GROUP OF FOUR BROADSIDES IN ENGLISH, A SLIGHT VARIANT OF THE LARGER GROUP AND DOUBTLESS A LATER ISSUE FROM THE PRESS, ARE DESIGNATED BY WROTH AS NO. 285; OF THIS GROUP ARE PETITIONS 37 AND [39]-[41]. THE ENGLISH-GERMAN BROADSIDE GROUP DESIGNATED BY WROTH AS NO. 287 EXIST IN ONLY ONE PRINTED FORM, ARE SEVEN IN NUMBER, AND FOLLOW AS PETITIONS 29-34 AND [38].]

[*The following Advertisement preceding the petition roll is in manuscript form*]

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Maryland  
Historical  
Society

In Compliance with a Resolve of the Honourable the Lower House of Assembly, Publick Notice is hereby given that a Petition will be preferr'd by the Inhabitants of Baltimore County to the next General Assembly of this Province for an Act of Assembly to be passed, for the Removal of the Seat of Justice from the Town of Joppa—Purchasing Land and Erecting a Publick Court House and Prison thereon in Baltimore Town, for the better and more Effectual administration of Justice