

the bill the Lower House sought to appropriate public money without the approval and supervision of the upper chamber (pp. 127, 128, 209-210). This is discussed later in this introduction (pp. lviii-lix).

Early in the session, on November 8, 1766, the Lower House addressed the Governor, asking him to inform the house the amount which had been collected during the past seven years from fines, amerciaments, and the twelvence export duty on tobacco (p. 148). On the same day the Governor sent a message in reply and with it a statement showing the total amount collected from fines and from the tobacco duty for eleven years, and promised to send an account showing the Provincial Court amerciaments, as soon as the figures could be obtained (p. 149). These accounts giving the figures are not entered, however, in the journal of the Lower House. On November 15th, the committee of the Lower House, headed by Edward Tilghman, appointed to inquire by what law or custom these fines, amerciaments and duties were appropriated for his own use by the Lord Proprietary and not turned over to the public, rendered a very lengthy report. This traced in detail the history of the dispute, which dated from the year 1715, when political control of the Province had been restored by the Crown to the Calvert family. The right of the people to the fines and duties was claimed under the British Constitution and the Maryland charter, as well as under subsequent legislation, and was declared by the committee to be unquestionable. With the report, to support these claims, were filed extracts from the journals of the two houses for the years 1715 and 1716 (pp. 159-167).

On November 15th, Sharpe sent a message to the Lower House that he was giving it notice in advance so as to prevent delay in the public business, that it was necessary for him to go across the Bay on the 21st or 22nd of November, and that he did not think he would be able to return until the end of the month (p. 169). In an address in reply, the Lower House declared "we expect that the Public Business will be concluded by the latter End of next week and assure your Excellency that we will exert our Endeavors for that Purpose" (pp. 169, 170). As a matter of fact, the Assembly did not adjourn until December 6th. We learn from a letter from Sharpe to Hamersley, dated November 20th, that he, together with Daniel Dulany and John Morton Jordan, the Proprietary's revenue agent, were about to cross the Bay to attend the sale of the Manor of Kent, a large Proprietary manor on the Eastern Shore, belonging to Frederick, Lord Baltimore, who at this time was disposing of his Proprietary manorial holdings in Maryland (*Arch. Md.* XIV, 348).

Sharpe, on November 17th, 1766, in a message to the Lower House, declared that during the late war he had expended £70 currency for hiring expresses sent to the frontier "on account of the Public Services", for which he felt he should be reimbursed (p. 170). It would appear that additions were made to the Journal of Accounts to carry this item (pp. 191-192).

*Echoes of the Stamp Act.* Again on December 18, 1766, Sharpe sent a message to the Lower House stating that he had received a letter from one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, together with copies of two acts of Parliament passed at the last session, and several votes and resolves