

As to the procurement of law books the House obviously had reference to a 1692 act (re-enacted in 1699) providing that "the Statutes books of England to these times named Keebles Collection of the Statutes and Dalton's Justice of the Peace" be obtained by the justices of the several county courts, at county charge, to be kept in the several county courts so that the justices and officers of such courts and others might have recourse to them as they should have occasion. However, it was not until the September 1699 court that Colonel Holliday was ordered to send for "those Law bookes the new Laws makes mention off." The November 1700 levy, appearing in *Liber B*, shows he received allowances for copies of the Statutes at Large and Dalton's *The Countrey Justice*.¹⁸

What manner of men were the justices or commissioners in Prince Georges County?

Thomas Holliday, Chief Justice of the Prince Georges County Court from 1696 to his death in 1703, came to Maryland from Virginia in 1679, settling in Calvert County where he became a substantial planter and land-owner, and perhaps a merchant. Prior to the formation of Prince Georges County he was a commissioner and captain of the county militia in Calvert County; later he became lieutenant-colonel in the Prince Georges militia. He served as a vestryman of St. Paul's Parish at Upper Mount Calvert, 1692-1703.

William Hutchison (d. 1711), apparently born in England, had served as deputy surveyor of Charles and St. Marys Counties, as captain of a troop of horse in Charles County and as a member of the House of Delegates (1694-95) for such county prior to the establishment of Prince Georges County. He represented Prince Georges County in the House of Delegates from 1696 through the early 1700's, serving on a number of committees. He had contacts with the Piscattoway Indians, "having lived neer the Piscattoway Fort for some years," and was named on several commissions to treat with them or to resurvey their lands in case of dispute, as well as on several legislative committees on Indian affairs or securing the frontiers. In 1699 he became one of the coroners of Prince Georges County. In 1701 Hutchison was one of eleven persons recommended to the Board of Trade for possible appointment to the Council "who had been long livers in the country, with good estate, experienced and well affected toward His Majesty's Government." A vestryman of Piscattoway Parish, he became "foreman" in 1704. Apparently a substantial planter, he left a large estate.

William Barton, seemingly the son of Captain William Barton, a prominent personage in Charles County, upon the formation of Prince Georges County was nominated major of the county militia (later he appears as colonel) and elected to the House of Delegates. In June 1699 he became sheriff of Prince Georges, giving up his seat in the House. Being a planter and Indian trader, he was one of the persons appointed to treat with the Piscattoways and Accokicks in 1697, as well as a member of the committee on Indian affairs subsequently appointed by the Governor and Assembly. He served as a vestryman of St. Paul's Parish and left a substantial estate at his death (1705 or 1706).

John White (d. 1705) was a justice in Calvert County prior to the formation of Prince Georges. In 1696/7 he became one of the coroners for Prince Georges County. In 1697 he was one of the commissioners appointed to treat with the Piscattoway and Accokick Indians. Apparently a planter and merchant, he served as a member of the House of Delegates from 1698 through 1704.

Robert Bradley (d. 1724), a merchant, ship owner and seemingly factor for Edward and Dudley Carleton and Company, London merchants, became a member

18. 13 *id.* 521; for the 1699 act to the same effect see 22 *id.* 463; *infra* 553; *PGCJ, Liber B*, 83a