

During his administration the question of Maryland's jurisdiction over the Potomac came up, on the occasion of two vessels seized in that river by a British man-of-war, whose case it was proposed to try before a Virginia court. Upon proper representation, Governor Botetourt and the Virginia authorities recognized Maryland's rights at once, and the vessels were released.

Some references will also be found to the third great spoliation of Maryland, which, begun by Lord Fairfax in 1733 by locating his eastern line far within the charter boundaries of Maryland, without any notification to that Province, and protested against by Maryland for nearly 180 years, has lately received final judicial approval.

In the Minutes of the Board of Revenue, beside much interesting information in regard to the financial system of the Province, will be found some account of the proceedings of the Rev. Bennett Allen, a greedy, brawling and blustering parson, a sort of parasite of Frederick, Lord Baltimore, who—probably to get rid of him—sent him to Maryland, gave him two fat benefices, and made him his Receiver General, in both which capacities, spiritual and temporal, he made more trouble than his head was worth. After a brief but stormy sojourn he returned to England, carrying his grudges with him, and in London he shot and killed Lloyd Dulany.

The opinions of eminent English lawyers on the regulation of officers' fees are appended because they throw light on a question which greatly agitated the Province in 1770, and which seems to be imperfectly understood.

In England the King had the unquestioned right to settle the fees of his own officers, and this right in Maryland was one of the *jura regalia* conferred upon the Proprietary by his charter. The Governor and Council, who represented the Proprietary, exercised the right of drawing up a tariff of fees, which was submitted to the Assembly for confirmation as a matter of grace rather than of right; while the Assembly claimed the right of preventing these fees from being excessive. Hence the Acts passed at various sessions establishing fees usually bore the title "An Act for the limitation of officers' fees."

The Council being also the Upper House of Assembly, there were occasionally disputes between the two Houses on this subject. As the fees were payable in tobacco, and the value of that commodity fluctuated considerably, the acts were drawn for a short term of years, and were revived or modified at their expiration. At times, as in 1642 and 1733