

forces, and the state had its share of young men at the front all through the war. The Commander-in-Chief had been a well-known figure in Annapolis. British war vessels patrolled the bay; and in August of 1777, the people along tidewater had watched the British fleet with Howe's army working its way up the whole length of the Chesapeake. Until it passed there was much worry and preparation to receive it at Annapolis. Count Pulaski's legion of cavalry was organized there early in 1778. In March of 1781, Annapolis was blockaded by the British sloops of war, "Hope" and "Monk", and Lafayette with his French force was held there. The year was one of friendly occupation of the town by the French. General Washington stopped there in November, 1781. And besides these distractions, efforts to keep up a supply of men and munitions had to be maintained constantly during the whole period of the war. Judges Rumsey and Mackall appear to have been busy providing troops and supplies, and the other three judges were all occupied with some war work. There was, therefore, much to interrupt the ordinary course of judicature. Yet the General Court proceeded with its work on the Western Shore from and after April, 1778, and on the Eastern Shore from September of that year. While it doubtless experienced some difficulty, it did not find it necessary to let its work lie undone, and the Court of Appeals did not dispatch its work much more rapidly after the war was over; its minutes for years after that contain many notes of adjournments for lack of judges. And Judge Jones, in a letter written to his wife from Annap-