

Roman Catholics who had not been naturalized and to those who had purchased land in good faith from them (pp. 77, 214). The Lower House refused to acquiesce in the Upper House amendment and disposed of the whole matter by postponing its consideration until January 1, 1766, when it knew the Assembly would no longer be in session (pp. 172, 184, 77, 214, 232). The act of 1735 imposing an import duty on negroes, several sorts of liquors imported, and on "Irish servants to prevent the importing too great a Number of Irish Papists into this Province", had been several times extended, and was again continued for seven years at the November–December session (p. 288). An entry in the Accounts of the Clerk of the Council, under date of May 10, 1757, allowing him a fee for "recording the representation relating to Roman Catholic schoolmasters and orders requiring them to take the oaths to the Government", although a belated record, is duly recorded in these proceedings (p. 116). These are the only direct references to Catholics to be found in the proceedings of the 1765 sessions. In the preceding paragraph it has been noted that a bill relating to apprentices, passed by the Lower House and rejected in the upper chamber at this session, would have apparently required the county courts in apprenticing children who had been deserted by fathers, to select only Protestant masters, irrespective of the religion of the parents.

*Indians.* Indian affairs were almost entirely quiescent in the Province during 1764–1765 as far as the journals of the two houses reveal. When a committee of the Lower House was appointed at the November–December session to enquire what acts were about to expire by time limitations, among those reported to the house were the acts of 1763 (1) prohibiting all trade with the Indians, and (2) offering a bounty of £50 for every enemy Indian captured and for every enemy Indian scalp (p. 170; *Arch. Md.* LVIII; lxxii). Obviously the need for such laws had now passed and they were allowed to die.

*Negro slaves.* There had evidently been difficulties about negro slaves from distant localities or from other colonies who claimed that they were free. To obviate this uncertainty a bill was introduced into the Lower House "to compel free Negroes and Mulattoes to procure Certificates of their freedom", which they would be obliged to show to avoid arrest as runaways, but action upon it was deferred until the next Assembly (pp. 214, 222, 229). A "remonstrance" from the inhabitants of Prince George's County against negroes stealing sheep and hogs, and against dogs destroying them, was referred by the Upper House to the Lower House, but no legislation at this time resulted from it (p. 52).

*Ordinary licenses.* The disposition of licenses from inns or ordinaries had been a subject of dispute for three quarters of a century between the people as represented by the Lower House, and the Upper House as representing the Proprietary, who claimed the license fees and the fines for himself as his prerogative. During the past decade the dispute had flared up with renewed acrimony and had been the cause of innumerable messages between the two houses at recent sessions. Its recent history has been discussed by the editor in the preceding volume of the *Archives* (LVIII; lxvii–lxix) dealing with Assembly matters. At this November–December, 1765, session of the Assem-