

for the speedy and effectual Publication of the Laws of this Province and for the Encouragement of Anne Catharine Green of the City of Annapolis Printer." By the terms of this statute each county in Maryland was to contribute a stated number of pounds of tobacco to Mrs. Green for publishing the laws of the province when the Assembly was in session and a lesser amount when the Assembly was not meeting. This law was to be in effect until December 25, 1772 (pp. 299-302). Although it was not reenacted during the June-July session of the Assembly in 1773, it was during the one which met later that year. Prior to 1771 Mrs. Green had had the benefit of a law similar to the one then enacted, but it had expired on December 25, 1770 (*Arch. Md.* XLII, xxxvii-xxxviii).

The other statute, which may also be called a general law, was entitled "An Act empowering the County Courts to settle with Persons who were formerly Inspectors of Tobacco." The preamble of this law stated that by the expiration of "An Act for amending the Staple of Tobacco for preventing Frauds in his Majesty's Customs & for the Limitation of Officers Fees" the power of the county courts to settle the accounts of the inspectors ceased, and as a result the public in many instances were deprived of the balance due from the inspectors and in other cases the inspectors themselves were unpaid. In order to remedy this situation, the Justices of the county courts were authorized by this law to summon the inspectors before them and then to settle and adjust their accounts (p. 305).

It was at this session also that "An Additional Supplementary Act to the Act entitled an Act for the Establishment of religious Worship in this Province according to the Church of England and for the Maintenance of Ministers" was passed. This law provided, among other things, for the oaths that must be taken by an inducted minister and on what grounds he might be suspended or deprived of his benefice (pp. 290-293). This significance of this law has been discussed at length in a previous volume of the *Archives* (LXI, lxix-lxxii).

When the Assembly met again in June, 1773, this act in regard to the clergy was the subject of criticism. The Lower House was of the opinion that it was not enacted by "legal and Constitutional Authority" and was therefore void. The Delegates were also of the opinion that provision for the support of the clergy of the Church of England in Maryland should be "upon the Principle of Equality, in Imitation of that which has long prevailed in his Majesty's Colony of Virginia" (p. 347).

Why the law regarding ministers was not legal was explained at a subsequent Assembly meeting. It appears that Frederick Calvert, the Lord Proprietary, had died in September, 1771, prior to the opening of the last session of the Assembly on October 2. Had this fact been known the General Assembly should have been dissolved and arrangements made for the election of a new Lower House. Since this was not the case all the laws passed at the session of Assembly held in October-November, 1771, were considered invalid. It was for this reason that the Lower House on June 22, 1773, ordered that a bill be brought in to make valid the several acts of Assembly passed at the session held during the fall of 1771. However, one of the two acts which the Delegates did not want made