

5-8

~~General Assembly of 1797~~

¹ Adjourned until November 8, 1797 when a sufficient number were present.

² Committee of Elections and Privileges reported on November 8, 1797 that the election of delegates for Baltimore Town had begun on October 3, 1797 rather than on October 5 as required by the constitution. The House decided that a new election should be held for two delegates to represent Baltimore Town. On November 22, 1797, the Committee reported that Smith and Dorsey were duly elected.

³ Carroll resigned as speaker of the House of Delegates on November 13, 1797. William Thomas replaced Carroll as speaker.

⁴ Chapman took the chair when the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on November 30, 1797 to consider the bill "to alter and repeal such parts of the constitution and form of government of the state, as relate to the council of the governor." William Thomas resumed the chair after the committee had sat.

⁵ Parnham took the chair when the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on December 12, 1797 to consider the bill "to alter, abolish and repeal, such parts of the second, third, fourteenth and forty-second sections of the constitution and form of government, as relate to the time, place and manner, of holding the several elections therein specified." William Thomas resumed the chair after the committee had sat. Parnham took the chair again on December 13, 1797 when the committee of the whole sat a second time.

⁶ Swailes, according to an allegation presented to the House on December 14, 1797, had taken "an undue and ungenerous advantage of a certain Henry Crist, by playing with marked cards, knowing the same to be marked, and by that means winning the money of the said Crist." The House resolved to inquire into Swailes's conduct, and on December 19, 1797 it found Swailes guilty of the charge and discharged him.

⁷ Nicholson was elected speaker pro tem on December 28, 1797, to replace William Thomas who was indisposed. The proceedings do not indicate the length of time Nicholson spent in the chair although his name appears in a roll call vote taken on December 30. One can only presume that Thomas had returned as speaker by that date because, according to the rules adopted by the House, a speaker could vote only in the event of a tie. Nicholson's name does not appear in the roll call vote taken on December 29, and hence he was probably speaker for part of that day. [note 8 on reverse]