

experiments in law making of value to him, and the genealogist and conveyancer may secure valuable information as to pedigree and the title to land, in the acts of naturalization and in those curing defects in deeds and wills.

There is a certain interest in the fact that we now have complete the legislation of that important session of 1715, when Andrew Hamilton was one of the leading members of the Lower House, coming from Kent County, where he was then a neighbor of John Peter Zenger, whose defence in New York was destined at a later date to make both men famous. (Dawson's Historical Magazine, August, 1868, 16 Pa. Magazine of History 1, and 20 Pa. Magazine of History 405, contain facts as to Hamilton and his connection with Maryland, while Wisconsin Historical Society Magazine, Vol. 1, prints the most recent account of Zenger.) Zenger's private naturalization act is also to be found in this volume.

In the Appendix to this volume are printed some papers which deal with the period just before 1733, but which were not available for printing in the earlier volumes of the Archives.

In these times, the words of Fuller in the "Holy and Profane State" ring very true:

"We read of King Ahasuerus that having his head troubled with much business and finding himself so indisposed that he could not sleep, he caused the records to be brought in to him hoping thereby to deceive the tediousness of the time, and that the pleasant passages in the Chronicles would either invite slumber or enable him to bear waking with less molestation. We live in a troublesome age and he needs to have a soft bed who can sleep nowadays amidst so much loud noise and many impetuous rumors. Wherefore it seemeth to me both a safe and cheap receipt to procure quiet and repose to the mind that complains of want of rest to prescribe the reading of History. Great is the pleasure and profit thereof. Zaccheus, we know, was low and little in stature; but when he had borrowed some height from the fig-tree, into which he climbed, (Luke xix. 4,) the dwarf was made a giant on a sudden; last minute beneath the arms, but now grown above the heads, of other men. Thus, our experimental knowledge is, in itself, both short and narrow, as which cannot exceed 'the span of our own Life.' But when we are mounted on the advantage of history, we cannot only reach the year of Christ's incarnation, but even touch the top of the world's beginning, and, at one view, over-see all remarkable accidents of former ages."

Like King Ahasuerus, the genial essayist, S. M. Crothers felt that "To live all the time among our contemporaries is not good for us. . . . By getting away from our contemporaries we can be carefree spectators of the play of human forces." ("Pleasures of an Absentee Landlord," pp. 7 and 9.)