

LETTER OF TRANSMISSION.

ROOMS OF THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

BALTIMORE, *October 1, 1924.*

To the Maryland Historical Society:

GENTLEMEN:

We have the honor to submit the forty-third volume of the Archives of Maryland, containing the Journal and Correspondence of the State Council from October 27, 1779 to 1780, and being the fifth volume of the sub-series devoted to this subject. The last volume of this Journal &c. was the twenty-first of the whole series and was printed in 1901. It seemed well to your Committee to return to the Revolutionary period in Maryland's history and to diversify the contents of the series by publishing this volume, not only because of the fact that, by so doing, a service would be rendered to those who may investigate the records for purposes of political, military or economic history, or for genealogy; but also because it is desirable to remind those who care for the past of Maryland that several kinds of manuscripts remain to be published in the Archives and further, because a considerable part of the material used in this volume was transcribed by Miss Harrison, over a score of years ago and so could be used without additional expense.

A few days after the beginning of the period covered by this volume, the term of office of Thomas Johnson, the first Governor of the State, expired and he was succeeded upon November 9, 1779, by Thomas Sim Lee, who was elected by the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of the State Constitution, to serve for one year.

The Journal and Letter Book of the Council are among the manuscript volumes of Archives deposited by the State with the Society. The letters to the Council are to be found in two collections, both deposited with the Society. The more important of these letters were secured from Annapolis by Col. Brantz Mayer very early in the Society's history and were bound into volumes known from the color of the binding as Black, Brown, or Red. Another large collection of letters was received from Annapolis by the Society, largely through the efforts of Mr. J. W. M. Lee about 1883. These letters were not untied until the late autumn of 1922 and the collection has not been used in any previous volume of the Archives. At some time in the future, it may appear desirable to issue a volume containing the supplemental material to the first four volumes of this Revolutionary Series.

In the early volumes of this sub-series of the Archives, the Journal of the Council for each day was followed by letters sent by the Council and those addressed by the Council upon that day. The plan has now been changed and