

tion particularly to the painting over the landing of the staircase, which portrays Washington's resignation in this very room whose restoration we are now marking.

To all who have had a part in the restoring and refurnishing of this Old Senate Chamber, the State of Maryland will be eternally indebted, and I take this occasion to voice to them our sincere and heartfelt thanks. To the members of the Maryland Historical Society; to the members of its Restoration Committee, particularly Messrs. Fowler and Fenhagen, who gave so much of their time and ability; to Mr. Edward Clifton Thomas, a former resident of Sandy Springs, Maryland, who made available to us the original desk used by the President of the Senate; and to the members of Maryland Society of Colonial Dames of America, particularly Mrs. Shoemaker and Mrs. Howard, I express the gratitude of the State Administration and of our people generally.

We are appreciative, too, of the very splendid way in which the members of the Peggy Stewart Tea Party Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution accepted the invitation to sponsor today's ceremonies; and to Mrs. Robert, President General of the Society of America, who we are very happy to say is also a resident of Annapolis.

Today, Maryland reclaims one of its most valuable jewels of the past. It is with a high sense of State pride, that I know is shared by every one here present, that I now formally open this Old Senate Chamber to public inspection.