

8054-31-1

Historic Paper

*Historic Papers*

April 11, 1930

Hon. Carroll T. Bond,  
1125 N. Calvert Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Carroll:-

So much has been going on politically that I have not had the chance to consider very much your letter of April 5th, relative to the historic possessions down here. I will take it up as soon as I can.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

R-L



CARROLL T. BOND  
CHIEF JUDGE  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

April 5, 1930

Hon. Albert C. Ritchie  
Governor,  
Annapolis, Maryland

My Dear Bert,

Just an informal note on the matter of having a survey made of the valuables owned by the State, to save you the time of a talk about it. I took the liberty of asking Hall Pleasants if he would care to undertake such a task if you wished him to do it, and yesterday he and I walked about the several State offices at Annapolis to get an idea of the size of the task before committing ourselves to it. I think I can say we should both gladly undertake it if it is what we understand it to be in your mind. As to additional members of a committee or commission, there is some difficulty. It is asking rather much of anyone at a distance from Annapolis to undertake work which can be done only at Annapolis; and we fail to think of anyone at Annapolis who would be a help. Walton, I inferred, would prefer not to be called upon. He would be a pleasant addition, and incidentally he might be able to suggest papers in private custody which ought to be examined for historical purposes. The only man we could think of who would be sufficiently interested to join is Daniel R. Randall, who was born and spent his life in Annapolis, or most of it, and is a Ph. D. of Johns Hopkins in History, his doctorate thesis having been on the Puritan settlements about Annapolis in the 1600's. He is a real historian, and knows Annapolis. He would also, being a Republican, give a bi-partisan aspect to the thing, for what that may be worth.

A board of three seems to us preferable, because of the ease of its getting together and putting the work through.

The size of the task would, of course, depend upon the extent to which details of the valuables are noted and reported. What is called a calendaring, a separate description of each item, with size, number of pages, character of contents, and condition, would be too heavy a task for us. About that task was provided for by a Resolution of 1904, and the commission provided for it was given \$1,000 a year for two years for expenses. That commission did a good deal of work, but never reported -for some reason unknown to me. What I gather to be according to your idea, is a general statement of the valuables, with such a broad description as, for instance, so many volumes of records of wills from 16-- to 1776, from the Prerogative Court, in such and such condition, deposited in the Land Office,



CARROLL T. BOND  
CHIEF JUDGE  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

or, again, original papers in all cases appealed from the Provincial Court to the Governor and Council constituting the Court of Appeals, from 1700 to 1776, in - - bundles, alphabetically arranged, in the custody of the Court of Appeals, in fragile condition, and breaking badly. To all this we should, where circumstances permit, give some idea of the values and importance. The task taken in that way, would not be heavy, and we could do it in a fairly short time, without expense. Much of the work is already to be put in shape for a report. The commission, if it be called such, will need to do only supervisory work for the most part. The several offices will get the stuff out and give us lists &c. if we indicate what we are after.

I am not sure of the desirability of our being styled a commission because of the expectations that usually attach to such a formal body. But decided that as you find proper. The group should, I think be asked to make such examination as we find necessary to ascertain just what valuable papers, books, portraits and other objects owned by the State are accumulated at Annapolis, and make note of the safety of their storage, and their condition, and need of care; and make report as you think desirable. You might bespeak the aid of the various State officials. My plan would be to use them pretty freely.

I would suggest the desirability of removing from public expectations at the outset any impression that you want a much detailed inspection of items. An informative list of classes of items, with descriptions of contents, storage and condition is all we could deliver. And it may be well to characterize our work as supervisory in its nature. However described we shall deliver, of course.

Any further discussion you may wish, is ready at your service.

Sincerely yours,

Carroll T. Bond

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## Saving The Records

The Legislature yesterday finally passed a bill that provided for the appointment of a commission to direct and prepare for the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of Maryland. Numerous important duties will be assigned to the commission, including the acquisition of sites for memorials at Cowes, Isle of Wight, England, from which the colonists sailed, and at St. Clements Island, in the Potomac, where they first landed; at St. Mary's City and at Annapolis.

*As Seen in Md. J. J.*

However, far more important than all of these duties is the erection of a memorial hall in Annapolis for the preservation of all records and historical papers of the State and colony. The collection of records has reached an impressive size and it is none too soon that a home be found for them in a modern, fireproof building, where they will be easily accessible to students. Surely no more permanent way of celebrating the founding of the colony could be devised than the preservation of the original documents that tell the story at first hand.

In passing the commemoration bill the Legislature did a piece of work that will receive increasing appreciation as years go on. It has provided continuous illumination for a period that otherwise might have become dark through the loss of valuable evidence.

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*Washington letter  
to  
(Griswold)*

July 19, 1929

Mr. B. Howell Griswold, Jr.,  
c/o Alexander Brown and Sons,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Ben:-

I received your letter of July 16th on my return this afternoon from the Governors' Conference in New London, and will be very glad to arrange with you when you return from the West for the delivery of the Washington letter. I think I will wait until I can have a talk with you before giving out your formal letter for publication. One or two things occur to me which might make that inadvisable, and the delay will, I am sure, not make any difference. I would like very much to have the memoranda of the documents which you and your committee think are exposed to fire and other risks.

I am sorry not to have seen you for so long a time. I have never known there to be so many commencements, festivals, fairs and picnics and other like matters as during the last couple of months. They have been taking up all of my free time, and, somehow, I never found you at any of them.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

R-L

**ALEX. BROWN & SONS**  
(ESTABLISHED 1800)  
FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC BANKERS  
BROWN, SHIPLEY & CO.  
LONDON

BALTIMORE,  
MARYLAND

July 16th, 1929

Dear Bert:

I am enclosing herewith a formal letter, which we hope you will release to the press. Those familiar with the situation who have advised with us seem to think there is considerable danger of destruction by fire or deterioration of many valuable Maryland records. We thought it advisable therefore, to urge upon you the removal of these records, so far as they can be removed, to a safe place until proper provision can be made for a fire-proof building in Annapolis for exhibiting them. We hope the next Legislature will provide for such a building.

I am leaving for the West on Friday and on my return will take up with you the matter of delivery of the Washington letter to you. At present it is reposing in the vault of Robert Garrett & Sons subject to the order of John Garrett, your order or mine.

Yours,



Hon. Albert C. Ritchie,  
Governor of Maryland,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Baltimore,

1929

Hon. Albert C. Ritchie,  
Governor, State of Maryland,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Governor Ritchie:

We are prepared to return to the State of Maryland, the letter written in November 1781, after the Battle of Yorktown, by General George Washington, addressed to the Honorable George Plater, President of the Senate and the Honorable Thomas Cockey Dey, Speaker of the House of Delegates, in reply to a Vote of Thanks to Washington passed by the Maryland Assembly.

The letter obviously belongs to the State archives. It was purchased by us, as you know, at a sale advertised by Sotheby & Co., London, England.

We have been unable to obtain any record or suggestion as to how the document found its way into the hands of the auctioneer, or any record of when and how it came to be taken from the archives of the State.

The letter is manifestly genuine and has been so pronounced by experts. It has also been pronounced by experts to be perhaps the most valuable Washington letter ever offered at public sale. It is of special value, for obvious reasons to the State of Maryland.

We have recited the importance of the letter and the fact that it has been missing for years from the Maryland archives in order that the recital may emphasize the importance of a suggestion we venture to make to you as to where and how this document can be best preserved.

With the object of making a suggestion that might be worth while, the Committee has caused to be made a study of other documents, letters and records of historical value belonging to the State, and ventures to report many instances where these documents are not only exposed to serious fire hazard, but owing to lack of proper quarters, are so badly protected from the effects of heat and moisture that before many years, many of them may be destroyed.

It has been stated by leading historical writers that the State of Maryland has in its archives more valuable records than all of the other original States combined. Many of them have never been copied or subjected to the careful study and scrutiny of scholars as has been done with similar documents of other states.



It may well be said therefore, that from the standpoint of the history of our country as well as that of our own state, these documents are irreplaceable. It would be little short of a crime against our forefathers and against ourselves if any great number of these documents should be destroyed or lost for lack of proper care and attention.

We are therefore urging strongly that proper provision be made for housing in a fire-proof building, of these documents, where they will be open to the inspection of the public under proper restrictions and particularly where they may be open to the study of scholars and students of history. We suggest that such documents as need it, be put in a proper state of repair and stored in such manner as to be protected from the destructive factors of heat and moisture.

It is our belief that a fire-proof building, constructed with a view to proper protection of these valuable documents should be erected by the State as soon as possible and that such building should be in Annapolis, the home of our State Government.

It is conceivable however, that before a legislative appropriation can be made and the building erected, many of these documents may be destroyed by fire, or will deteriorate beyond the possibility of repair. We therefore strongly urge that in so far as you are able to control the situation, you order these documents removed to some fire-proof library within the State, to be held there until the State of Maryland is able to provide at Annapolis or elsewhere for the proper preservation of the documents.

If you so desire, we shall be glad to submit in detail, a memoranda of the valuable State documents exposed now to fire and other risks, with a view to having them removed to some safe place.

After making inquiry, it seems to us that as a temporary resting place, some of the documents could well be stored with the Maryland Historical Society. The Society however, would not have room to take care of the great mass of Court and other papers which should also be properly stored.

After surveying the library facilities of the State, we find but one possibility, and that a temporary one only. There has been completed in Baltimore recently, the Welch Memorial Library. It is not only fireproof, but provides the very latest precautions that architects and librarians have been able to devise for the protection of books and manuscripts. Owing to limited financial resources, the library is acquiring books slowly. If you so desire we shall be glad to take up the matter with the authorities of the Johns Hopkins University and attempt to obtain their consent for the temporary deposit of these valuable documents in the Welch Library until such time as the State of Maryland is able to house them with proper protection against fire and losses from other causes.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN W. GARRETT  
B. HOWELL GRISWOLD, JR.

For and on behalf of themselves and other  
Subscribers as follows:

ALEX. BROWN  
HOWARD BRUCE  
LAWRASON RIGGS  
HENRY WALTERS  
HUGH H. YOUNG  
WALDO NEWCOMER  
ROBERT GARRETT  
HARRY C. BLACK  
MRS. JOHN S. GILMAN  
T. EDWARD HAMBLETON  
MILES WHITE, JR.  
EDWIN G. BAETJER  
HOWARD BLAND  
W. G. BOWDOIN  
JACOB EPSTEIN  
W. HALL HARRIS  
W. W. LANAHAN  
EDGAR G. MILLER  
H. OLIVER THOMPSON  
JOSEPH C. FRANCE

SURRENDER YORKTOWN (final) October 19, 1781.

Notes and Proceedings 1781, p.7 and 8.

General Assembly Maryland first met Nov.14, 1781 for its November session of that year.

Minute, Tuesday, Nov. 20, 1781

Ordered, that a committee be appointed to prepare a message to the Senate, proposing a joint committee of both houses, for the purpose of draughting an address or vote of thanks to his Excellency, General Washington, and directing an entertainment to be prepared for him."

Committee appointed: Mr. Chase,  
B.T.B.Worthington  
and Mr. Stone

Same day - shortly after

Form of written communication ~~written~~ to the Senate with proposal, Chase, Hall and Lloyd to be House part of joint committee.

Same day:

Senate appointed Matthew Tilghman, Thomas Stone and Charles Carroll of Carrollton to complete joint committee and communicate fact to House.

Nov.22, 1781 - Votes and Proceedings 1781 pp8-9

The Committee of both houses brought in a form of address to Gen. Washington from the General Assembly, and it was unanimously agreed to.

Nov.23, 1781 - Votes and Proceedings, 1781 pp9-10

Letter from Gen. Washington in reply (the letter in question) presented to each house of assembly.

Then the entry in the House proceedings:

"Order, that the same, together with the vote of thanks to his Excellency, General Washington, be published in the Annapolis and Baltimore newspapers".

The Senate order was merely that it be taken to the house.

The address of the Assembly was delivered to Gen. Washington in person at Annapolis.

The first communication to the Senate from the House stated:

"His Excellency, General Washington being expected in this city, and desirous to shew him every attention and respect in our power, we propose, etc."

And the joint address to General Washington began:

"The General Assembly joyfully embrace the opportunity which your welcome arrival in this city affords them" etc.

Upon further checking up by Mr. Fickus of the Historical Society, I find that Washington traveled in November 1781 by way of Annapolis and Baltimore to Philadelphia where Congress was in session. Was in Baltimore Nov. 24th.

C. T. B.

Griswold

June 18<sup>th</sup> ?

June 13, 1929

June 17/29 Telephone S's Office -  
They have decided  
on date yet  
sch

Mr. B. Howell Griswold, Jr.,  
c/o Alexander Brown & Sons,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Ben:

I wish you would let me know whether you decide to turn over Washington's letter on next Tuesday, June 18th, or some other day, and whether you want to do it in Annapolis or Baltimore. I wrote you on June 1st about it, and do not want to make any other engagements for the 18th which might conflict with yours.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

*Griswold  
Washington letter  
June 18?*

June 1, 1929

Mr. B. Howell Griswold, Jr.,  
c/o Alexander Brown & Sons,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Ben:-

I have your favor of May 31st, and am afraid I cannot arrange for the presentation of Washington's letter on Friday, June 14th, as I have had to make a lot of dates that day in order to leave the same afternoon with the Eastern Shore Society on their annual cruise. I will be in the midst of a large commencement program until the middle of June, and the first day I could very well receive the letter is Tuesday, June 18th. If that is convenient to you, then I can make the appointment either in Annapolis or Baltimore, as you prefer. If in Annapolis, any hour of the day will suit me, and if in Baltimore, any hour in the afternoon after about one o'clock.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

R-L

**ALEX. BROWN & SONS**  
(ESTABLISHED 1800)  
**FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC BANKERS**

BROWN, SHIPLEY & CO.  
LONDON

**BALTIMORE,  
MARYLAND**

May 31, 1929

Hon. Albert C. Ritchie,  
Governor of Maryland,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

*Quoted June 18*

Dear Governor Ritchie:

On behalf of the Marylanders who purchased in England recently the letter dated November 1781 addressed to the General Assembly of Maryland by General George Washington, expressing his thanks to the General Assembly of Maryland for its congratulations following the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown - I am asking you to fix a date (say June 14th) in order that formal presentation of the document may be made through you to the State.

On the same occasion we should like to present to you our views concerning the proper custody of the document and of certain other very valuable and irreplaceable documents now belonging to and in the custody of the State. These documents are exposed not only to fire hazard and in some instances to thefts, but are so inadequately protected that in the course of time they will be illegible.

Doubtless you are familiar with the situation, but the Committee of Marylanders has certain plans to suggest which it is hoped, may meet with your approval and support.

Sincerely yours,

*B. Howell Griswold Jr.*

*3rd = 1st*

# Gordon Dunthorne

ETCHINGS, ENGRAVINGS  
AND  
EARLY ENGLISH FURNITURE



1726 CONNECTICUT AVENUE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
TELEPHONE, NORTH 4673  
CABLE, DUNTHORNE, WASHINGTON

SUMMER GALLERY - BAR HARBOR, MAINE

June 8  
1929

Governor Albert C. Ritchie  
Executive Mansion  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Governor:

In reply to your kind letter of the 7th of June with reference to the Portrait of the Third Lord Baltimore, I will be very glad if you can do as you suggest and submit the possibility of financing the purchase of this Portrait to the gentlemen whom you expect to see within the next two weeks. You will understand, of course, that this will have to be subject to prior sale.

I might add that during the last week of this month I will be closing my gallery here and opening in Bar Harbor for the summer.

Thanking you for the interest which you have taken,

Yours very truly,

*Gordon Dunthorne*



3<sup>rd</sup> Lord Baltimore

(June 18)

June 7, 1929

Mr. R. Gordon Dunthorne,  
1726 Connecticut Avenue,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dunthorne:-

I have your favor of June 6th, and thank you for the photograph of the Third Lord Baltimore's portrait and for your advice in regard to it. I am sorry that there are no State funds which would be available for its purchase. In Maryland, we can only expend State moneys on the purposes for which they have been specifically appropriated by the Legislature, and there is no appropriation which will cover anything of this kind. If the price were small enough, I could take it out of the State's Contingent Fund, but the balance in that fund is very much less than the net price of the portrait, - \$10,800. Our Legislature does not meet again until January 1931, and I do not know, of course, whether they would appropriate so large a sum for this purpose.

In connection with another matter, I am to meet within the next two weeks a number of gentlemen who are very public-spirited and interested in historical purchases of this sort. If you care to wait that long, I will submit the matter to them and see if they feel disposed to finance the purchase. If they do not, I expect you will have to regard this State as out of the market.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Governor.

R-L

# Gordon Dunthorne

ETCHINGS, ENGRAVINGS  
AND  
EARLY ENGLISH FURNITURE



1726 CONNECTICUT AVENUE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
TELEPHONE, NORTH 4673  
CABLE, DUNTHORNE, WASHINGTON

SUMMER GALLERY - BAR HARBOR, MAINE

June 6  
1929

Governor Albert C. Ritchie  
Executive Mansion  
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Governor:

In reply to your kind letter of the 4th of June, I beg to enclose herewith photograph of the Portrait by Sir Godfrey Kneller of Charles Calvert, Third Lord Baltimore. I also enclose a pedigree of the painting as I have received it.

The price which I am asking for this is \$12,000, but I feel that a painting of this historical importance should be in a public collection or owned by the State, and to that end I will be very glad to cooperate and am pleased to offer the painting at a discount of 10% (\$1200.) to the State.

Before hearing from you I had already written to several other people whom I thought might be interested. But until hearing from you I have thought best to reserve the painting (without, of course, any obligation on your part), as I feel that you should have the first opportunity of acquiring this.

It may be that you do not know of my gallery here as I have been in business in Washington only about four years. I can refer you to gentlemen in Baltimore who know me and have had dealings with Robert Dunthorne & Son in London, of which firm I was a partner. I can refer you to Dr. H. H. Young, Mr. Blanchard Randall, Mr. W. H. Buckler, Gen. Lawrason Riggs and Mr. Jacob France.

Very truly yours,

*R. Gordon Dunthorne*

Enclosure

12,000  
1,200  
10,800  
net \$

3<sup>rd</sup> Lane Bldg

June 5, 1929

Mr. Gordon Dunthorne,  
1726 Connecticut Avenue,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dunthorne:

I have your favor of June 4th. I will be glad if you will send me a photograph of Charles Calvert, Third Lord Baltimore, together with the price of the portrait. I like to secure historical portraits of this kind when I can. The difficulty is that there are usually not sufficient funds for the purpose without legislative appropriation.

Very truly yours,

Governor.

# Gordon Dunthorne

ETCHINGS, ENGRAVINGS  
AND  
EARLY ENGLISH FURNITURE



1726 CONNECTICUT AVENUE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
TELEPHONE, NORTH 4678  
CABLE, DUNTHORNE, WASHINGTON

SUMMER GALLERY - BAR HARBOR, MAINE

June 4  
1929

His Excellency, Governor of Maryland,  
Annapolis  
Maryland

Your Excellency:

I venture to bring to your notice a most important historical painting which I have just received from London, i.e. a three-quarter length portrait by Sir Godfrey Kneller, of Charles Calvert, Third Lord Baltimore, Governor and Proprietor of Maryland. This portrait belonged to Lord Baltimore's sister, who married into the Blackiston family, and who resided at Gibside Castle, County Durham. The size of the canvas is 50 x 40.

I will be pleased to learn if you would entertain the purchase of a portrait of such historical importance to Maryland. I will be glad to send you a photograph should you desire to see it, or to show you the portrait at my gallery here in Washington.

Awaiting the pleasure of hearing from you,

Very truly yours,

*R. Gordon Dunthorne*

August 4, 1929

Dr. James Bordley, Jr.,  
330 N. Charles Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Dr. Bordley:

Thank you for your favor of July 31st. I understand from it that you will put off our conference until you return in the Fall, and perhaps at the same time we might have Judge Bond and Messrs. Griswold and Garrett present.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Governor.

R:S

DR. JAMES BORDLEY, JR.  
PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
330 NORTH CHARLES STREET  
BALTIMORE, MD.

Baltimore, July 31, 1929.

Hon. Albert C. Ritchie,  
Governor of Maryland,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Governor:-

I am much indebted for your reply to my letter  
concerning the Hall of Records.

Knowing of the interest of the Griswold-Garrett  
Committee Dr. Halsey and I met Messrs. Griswold and Garrett and discussed  
what we had in mind. I think I can say that they were delighted with  
our plan as were also Judge Carroll T. Bond and the chairman of your  
Tercentenary Committee. Our conferences were held to eliminate any  
friction, or, misunderstanding and because we felt the unified efforts of  
all who are interested for the protection and preservation of our Archives.

I have been much over worked and am forced to go  
away for a little relaxation. Perhaps when I come back in the fall you  
will be ready to listen to our suggestion?

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

*James Bordley, Jr.*

*Hally Records  
Wm. Brady  
Srinivasa*

July 30, 1929.

Dr. James Bordley, Jr.,  
330 N. Charles Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Dr. Bordley:-

I have your favor of July 29th. Unfortunately, I will not be available any day this week in Baltimore, as I am leaving tomorrow for Western Maryland and will not return until Saturday. I would like to talk to you about the proposed Hall of Records, of course. What I had really rather do is wait until a committee composed of Ben Griswold, John Garrett and others see me on the same subject, because they have made a very thorough study of just what records ought to go in such a building. That committee is not available at present, and if you had rather not wait until they are, I will be glad to make an appointment with you. Frank Kent is out West for several weeks.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

R-L

DR. JAMES BORDLEY, JR.  
PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
330 NORTH CHARLES STREET  
BALTIMORE, MD.

July 29, 1929.

Hon. Albert C. Ritchie,  
Governor of Maryland,  
Annapolis,  
Maryland.

Dear Governor,

Dr. Halsey, Mr. Frank Kent and I were appointed a Committee by the Board of St. John's College to confer with you and your "Commission for the Tercentenary Celebration". The Commission through its Chairman wrote us about the proposed Hall of Records for the preservation of the State Archives and asked about a location on the College Campus.

We own the private dwelling opposite the Postoffice with a frontage of about one hundred and a depth of some two hundred and seventy feet.

We are willing to offer this without cost to the State but before doing so would prefer to discuss the subject with you.

I wonder whether you expect to be in Baltimore any afternoon or evening this week with enough free time to give us ten minutes?

Very sincerely,

*James Bordley Jr.*



*Stark - talking*

February 26, 1930

Mr. Milton Stark,  
219 W. Centre Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Stark:-

Thank you for your favor of February 25th,  
with further reference to talking motion pictures.  
As I wrote you before, I will be glad to discuss  
this with you, but I think it is a little too  
early yet.

With best wishes, I am,

Very truly yours,

Governor.

R-L

*Jackies*

# MILTON STARK

## "The Movie Man"

(Successor to STARK & EDWARDS)

Producers of

# MOTION PICTURES

Industrial—Educational—Scientific

Special Department for Lantern Slides

219 W. CENTRE STREET  
at Howard

BALTIMORE, MD.

February 25  
1 9 3 0

"It's the IDEA that counts"

Hon. Albert C. Ritchie,  
Governor,  
State of Maryland,  
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Governor Ritchie:-

With further reference to talking Motion Pictures. The Western Electric Company are demonstrating a portable sound projector that will fit in with your plans. If you can spare the time, it will be unusually interesting for you.

Mr. F. T. Kirk, who is in charge of the unit ( installed at Hochschild, Kohn & Co.) will be glad to tell you about its application in connection with meetings - interior or exterior - where your voice can be projected with a visualization of your subject matter.

Yours truly,

MILTON STARK  
"The Movie Man"

*M. Stark*

MS-1w.

### SOME OF OUR CLIENTS

The films show extremely good judgment on the part of the operators in selecting the things of greatest importance.

MD STATE ROADS COMMISSION

It is the best advertising buy we ever made.

FAIRFIELD FARMS DAIRY

You thoroughly understand your business from every angle.

MD. STATE GAME DEPT

The film has met with most favorable comment.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

The pictures are unusually good, and you handled the matter very satisfactorily.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

The scenario is intelligently written and holds interest to the end.

HENDLER CREAMERY CO.

Should I return to Baltimore, I will not even think of bringing a New York cameraman, but depend on Stark & Edwards.

LOEW'S THEATRES

We certainly wish to thank you for the very able manner in which you have served us in making this film.

MD. FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

You did a real job—quickly, quietly and thoroughly.

BRAGER OF BALTIMORE

If you want good work carefully worked out go to Stark & Edwards.

NEAR EAST RELIEF

Stark

January 30, 1930

Mr. Milton Stark,  
219 W. Centre Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Stark:-

Thank you for your favor of January 28th. I will be very glad indeed to make an appointment with you as soon as I get the chance about a talking motion picture. I appreciate the suggestion.

Very truly yours,

Governor.

R-L

**SOME OF  
OUR  
CLIENTS**

The films show extremely good judgment on the part of the operators in selecting the things of greatest importance.

MD STATE ROADS COMMISSION

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HENDLER CREAMERY CO.

Should I return to Baltimore, I will not even think of bringing a New York cameraman, but depend on Stark & Edwards.

LOEW'S THEATRES

We certainly wish to thank you for the very able manner in which you have served us in making this film.

MD. FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

You did a real job—quickly, quietly and thoroughly.

BRAGER OF BALTIMORE

If you want good work carefully worked out go to Stark & Edwards.

NEAR EAST RELIEF

PHONE, VERNON 3381

# MILTON STARK

"The Movie Man"

(Successor to STARK & EDWARDS)

Producers of

## MOTION PICTURES

Industrial—Educational—Scientific

Special Department for Lantern Slides

219 W. CENTRE STREET  
at Howard

BALTIMORE, MD.

"It's the IDEA that counts"

January 28  
1 9 3 0

Governor Albert C. Ritchie,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Governor Ritchie:-

You will no doubt recall that the last National political campaigns were noteworthy for their unusual publicity methods, which included, of course, Talking Motion Pictures.

We have just effected active connections in New York that will enable us to produce Talking Films for any purpose.

A Talking Motion Picture of your own, prepared in advance, offers unlimited possibilities for your coming campaign.

May I tell you more about this method, at your convenience ?

Yours truly,

MILTON STARK  
"The Movie Man"

*Milton Stark*

MS-1W

Griswold  
Records

February 15, 1930

~~Feb~~ March 3/30 Sam  
Griswold - We will  
take up later

Mr. B. Howell Griswold, Jr.,  
c/o Alexander Brown & Sons,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Ben:-

Thank you for your favor of February 12th,  
about the care and preservation of the records.  
There are probably a number of considerations  
to it, so I will not attempt to discuss it by  
letter, but will see you and talk it over some  
time this coming week.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

R-L

# ALEX. BROWN & SONS

ESTABLISHED 1800

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC BANKERS

BROWN, SHIPLEY & CO.  
LONDON

CABLE ADDRESS  
"BROWNS" BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE

MARYLAND February 12, 1930

Dear Bert:

## WASHINGTON - Battle of Yorktown Letter

Further referring to the safe-keeping of the Washington letter of November 1781 to the General Assembly, bought by the group of Marylanders to present to the State, and referring also to your inquiry as to the papers and documentary matter needing better care, I have asked Carroll Bond to give me some facts, and after some delay, I am able to write you further.

In the first place, it must be understood that there can be no suggestion of neglect by the State officials of recent times. And perhaps we should say that previous State officials were, like most other people at the time, lacking in appreciation rather than in care of the stuff that we have in Maryland. We are all just made aware of the value that comes to our material with the lapse of time, and everybody is looking about for the best means of permanent care. Much has been done, and we are outlining measures of further care, present and future.

It appears that we have this material, in this condition, generally speaking. In the Land Office, and the State Library, where care is given under intelligent officials, there is a good deal of historical material of value in reasonably, but not entirely, fire-proof surroundings. In the Land Office, there is, as you know a large amount of very valuable manuscript material in books and papers. The books are, generally speaking, well-bound, but a few mutilations have occurred in the past, and the original records ought to be retired from general use and wear. The Commissioner is, I believe, making copies as fast as he can. The papers in that office are folded, as they should not be, any longer, and are too much used. Books in the cellar of the Land Office are subjected to too much heat, thus according to our advice, being rendered brittle and liable to early destruction. I do not hear any severe criticisms passed on the care of these things in the Land Office, but from what I do hear of conditions under which they are obliged to work, I should not be encouraged to store very valuable things there.

In the Library, Miss Shearn has steel cases for the more valuable books. Perhaps some of the old books with autographs might be added to the lot in the cases. The volumes of the Maryland Gazette form a unique collection of original colonial material which we are informed ought to be retired from use immediately. Miss Shearn hopes to have photostat copies made and substituted for reference. One of the chief difficulties in the library, as in most public libraries, lies in the danger of petty thefts. Probably the State Library has in the past suffered less from this than other libraries, but there is information of important losses in the past, and as appreciation of the market value as well as historic value of these documents increase, the danger of theft increases proportionately.

What old material in the keeping of the various executive offices needs special care, we do not know, because there has been no survey of it.

In the keeping of the Court of Appeals, there is a large accumulation from the early provincial era, much of it in books, but most of it in bundles of papers. In the last two or three years, the most valuable items so far found in this accumulation have been brought up into the vaults of the clerk of the court, but otherwise it is all bundled up and crammed into wooden cupboards in the cellar of the Court of Appeals Building. The surroundings are far from fireproof, pipes carrying heat for the building above keep the cellar at a very high temperature hastening the breaking up of the paper; and a large part of the older material is now breaking or already broken at the folds. This accumulation is large and varied. Among other items it includes these: A large amount of original papers of land litigation of the provincial days, plats, deeds, commissions to officers, papers of litigation of all kinds in the Provincial Court, General Court, Courts of Delegates, and Court of Appeals, miscellaneous papers such as letters, reports, etc. The originals of all laws, in manuscript, from 1732 to date, compilations or records of laws from 1692 (the oldest includes laws from 1640 to 1692), Chancery records, including the record of writs issued in the province from 1666 to 1674. The original State constitutions of 1851, 1864 and 1867 were found in this accumulation after a prolonged search. The constitution of 1776 has not been found.

Judge Bond tells me that genealogists and scholars ask for access to this lot of material now, but it has been forbidden because so large a part of the stuff is too fragile for handling, and the clerk's force cannot keep proper watch over its use.

A great quantity of this stuff will some day have to be subjected to the modern process for permanent preservation. Ultimately there should be, and no doubt will be, an expert preserver attached to a hall of records, making gradual progress on the work there. Mr. Dielman of the Peabody Institute, whose wife is such an expert and a teacher of it, says there is a Miss Walton in Annapolis who is able to do anything we have now.

As to the value of the material taken altogether, I have already passed on to you the estimates of some experts in such material. One was a Professor Gipson of Lehigh, who is working on a book on the British Colonial Empire in the 18th century and who spent some time in the summer of 1928 examining this old Maryland material. Judge Bond has a letter from him in Ireland, telling of the labor historians are expending on the ashes of historical records in Dublin and urging that we get our material stored and arranged better.

One expert, I am informed, amazed at the wealth of historical material available in Maryland was so bold as to say that as a whole it possessed greater historic value than that of any of the original Colonies.

It is this wealth of material whose safety we desire to ensure and make available under proper restrictions to the students of this country and particularly of this State.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "B. Howard Knowlton". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed phrase "Very truly yours,".

Hon. Albert C. Ritchie,  
Governor of Maryland,  
Annapolis, Maryland.