

liberation, and a firm conviction of the vast importance of the object had in view, they recommend the following resolution.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this House, it is expedient that proper measures be adopted, at the discretion of the President, to procure from the public offices in England, copies of documents illustrative of the History of America; the expense of the same to be defrayed out of the contingent fund for foreign intercourse."

From the favorable manner in which this was considered, by the Library Committee, and from the nature of their report to the House, there can be little doubt but that it would have been adopted as the sentiments of that body, and the requisite appropriation been made, were it not for the late period in the session when it was submitted; but from this circumstance, the great press of other business rendered it necessary or expedient to lay it on the table; since which time, no one has interested himself sufficiently in the fate of it, to again call it up. Considering that it was not acted on simply for the want of time, no hostility being manifested towards it, we cannot but indulge the hope, that by resorting to proper steps, and by the aid of suitable means, the subject may yet receive from Congress that attention which it deservedly merits; and that by our combined exertions we may accomplish our ends more satisfactorily and surely, however much may be done by individual effort. We therefore, in behalf of the Rhode Island Historical Society, invite your attention to the subject, and solicit you to co-operate with us in endeavoring to effect the purpose so earnestly to be desired.

Respectfully yours,

USHER PARSONS,
W. R. STAPLES,
THOMAS H. WEBB, } Committee.

To His Excellency,
The Governor of Maryland.