

of format and editorial procedure. Many peculiarities of calligraphy, contraction, and punctuation in eighteenth century manuscripts cannot be duplicated in standard fonts. Purists, therefore, will settle for nothing short of facsimile reproduction, an arrangement neither consonant with the letterpress tradition of the *Archives* nor feasible in point of cost. Accordingly, the Publications Committee has elected to follow the example of the great sets—The Jefferson Papers, Franklin Papers, and others—now being produced. Briefly, the Committee has adopted—with some modifications—the “expanded method” fully sketched by Dr. Julian P. Boyd in *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson*, I, xxv.

The manuscript text of the matter reproduced in the following pages is in the custody of the Hall of Records Commission, Annapolis, Maryland under the archival listing, Proceedings of the Governor and Council. The proceedings between the dates November 27, 1784 and November 10, 1788 are entered in a bound volume, large folio in size, containing 396 pages of minutes and a final blank page. This entire volume is reproduced in the following pages. The succeeding volume, also large folio of 354 pages, contains the proceedings from November 14, 1788 to November 12, 1791. Only the first thirty-six pages are reproduced here, to bring the record up to the meeting of the Governor and Council on February 23, 1789.

Dr. Morris L. Radoff, Archivist of Maryland, sat with the Publications Committee in its deliberations and agreed to furnish the Society with photostat copies of the above proceedings. From these Dr. St. Julien R. Childs carefully prepared the typescript for the editor of the present volume. Mr. Gust Skordas, Assistant Archivist, has given technical advice and expedited production of the photostats. Mr. Frank White of the Hall of Records compiled the lengthy index. Miss Beverly Baker of the Hall of Records has obligingly verified a number of difficult readings by comparison with the originals during the final editing of the text. On behalf of the Publications Committee I wish to thank Dr. Radoff, Mr. Skordas, Dr. Childs, and Miss Baker for these indispensable services to producing Volume LXXI of the *Archives*. Finally, Mr. Harold R. Manakee, Director of the Maryland Historical Society, has earned the gratitude of the Publications Committee and the editor for expediting in so many ways the resumption of this sub-series of the *Archives of Maryland*.

Aubrey C. Land
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