

reports. Not all the notes were used in the later reports. In 1801 he published a book of "Modern Entries", an exhaustive collection of forms designed to replace for the bench and bar of the state the long succession of English books of entries¹⁷ which had been in use since the early days of the province. Most of the forms he used were taken from the records of the Provincial and General Court, and gaps were filled in by use of the English forms. The work was a painstaking one, probably the extra occupation of a period of years.

On taking his position as clerk of the Court of Appeals of the Western Shore, Harris became custodian of a large accumulation of papers and records of the older Court of Appeals as well as of the vaster collection of the Provincial Court and the General Court of the Western Shore. He prepared an index, under the names of persons, of proceedings in the Provincial Court from 1658 to 1776, with brief descriptions of the proceedings; a work which fills three large folio volumes. The docket of the Court of Appeals from 1695 to 1790 appears transcribed in his hand. Associating with himself John McHenry, a young member of the bar, he set to work to report a selection of cases decided chiefly in the Provincial Court from 1658 to 1776. The papers and records were examined, note books and opinions of lawyers of the earlier periods searched out; and in 1809, three years after Harris became clerk of the Court of Appeals, the first Maryland report, 1 Harris & McHenry's Reports, appeared. It was a private venture of the reporters, as were all the other

17. Holdsworth, V, 383 to 386.