

Papers, comprising five volumes of Proprietary Council Books, 1637—50, 1650—69, 1656—68, 1669—71, 1721—28. Governor Sharp's Literary Books of 1754—56, and 1767—71; also the Journal of the Council of Safety, at Annapolis, 1775—76. Moreover, 3 portfolios of papers and correspondence from 1638 to 1769; 1684 to 1775; 1751 to 1778. In addition to the above, we own the Gilmor Collection of Maryland Historical Papers, Letters, &c., which was obtained chiefly by the late Robert Gilmor, from the Treasures of Mr. Ridout, whose father had been Governor Sharp's Secretary. This collection is comprised and systematically arranged in three thick volumes or cases, viz:

1st, from 1689 to 1770; 2d, from 1755 to 1776; 3d, from 1751 to 1766.

With this brief sketch of what we still have, as well as of our losses, your memorialist respectfully solicits your Honorable Body to consider this appeal, which, you will observe, has been warmly seconded by an additional memorial, forwarded herewith from the Maryland Historical Society.

Your memorialist prays that a proper commission may be appointed and authorized by your legislation to carry forward this work, with directions to report to the next General Assembly of Maryland, and that a sum of money, not to exceed \$ , be appropriated to defray the necessary expenses of the commission during the next two years—one-half thereof only to be drawn from the Treasury in each year.

BRANTZ MAYER.

*To the General Assembly of Maryland:*

The Maryland Historical Society having been apprised of the memorial of Mr. Brantz Mayer to your Honorable Body, in which he sets forth the importance of speedily re-assembling the scattered and decaying State papers and records of Maryland during its early period of existence, begs leave very respectfully to commend the project to you, and at the same time to express the hope that these State papers and records may be placed in a permanent archive, systematically arranged in chronological order, bound and indexed, so as to be made permanently useful for ready historical reference; and moreover, that the most valuable thereof may be printed in the style adopted by several of our sister States, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont and Virginia, of the original thirteen Colonies, have, in this way, already enriched the historical literature of America; and this Society indulges the confident belief,