CHAP. 256 Preamble. State as therein provided, on the condition that said society shall safely keep, properly arrange and catalogue the same, and shall edit and publish, under its supervision, such of the same as were of historical importance; and

WHEREAS, Said society, out of its own means, has constructed an expensive vault for the safe keeping of said records, and has, on its part, complied with all the provisions of said Act and subsequent Acts, and it is proper that the publication of said archives should be continued with diligence and care under the supervision of said society; and

Whereas, There exists several and considerable portions of the said records, archives and ancient documents, whereof there is no copy whatsoever in the possession or under the control of the State or any officer or agent thereof, as set forth in the report made by said society to this General Assembly; which said missing portions the said society has ascertained to exist in the Public Record Office in London; and it is desirable, in order to have the said archives and ancient documents of the State made complete by the transcribing and copying thereof, that the same may be published in their due sequence; therefore,

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the sum of two thousand dollars for each year for the period of two years from this date be and the same sum of money appropriated and shall be paid to the said Maryland Historical Society out of any funds in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, which sum shall be paid, one thousand dollars on the first day of June and December of the years 1906 and 1907.

Archives. property of the State.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That the archives of Maryland published by said society with the funds herein provided shall, as provided by the Act of 1882, Chapter 138, be the property of the State; provided, that said society may purchase such volumes as it wishes for its members and exchanges at the cost of paper, presswork and binding, and shall be authorized to sell others at cost; the proceeds of all sales to be added to the publication fund and used only therefor; provided further, that ten copies of each volume of the archives published by said Maryland Historical Society shall be bound in cloth and deposited in the State library for the use thereof; and that the said society be and it is