

Zion College Library, many valuable papers which relate to the ante-revolutionary history of Maryland, without which the history of that period cannot be complete, nor fully or correctly written. And also, that there are still documents and papers, amongst the archives in the Propaganda at Rome, of much historical interest, and illustrative of the early provincial history of Maryland, copies of which could probably be procured at a trifling cost.

Mr. J. H. ALEXANDER, a citizen of this State, and well known for his literary and scientific attainments is now in Europe, and I am informed cheerfully consents to procure for the State, if so desired, such transcripts or copies, if said papers are in existence, and of real value.

I therefore respectfully recommend that authority be given to Mr. ALEXANDER or some other competent person, to procure for the use of the State Library, copies of such original papers if they can be obtained on reasonable terms.

LAWLESSNESS IN BALTIMORE—ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

In the last communication which I had the honor to address to the General Assembly, I took occasion to advert in very decided terms to a new element, which at that time had recently been developed in political controversy, under the fosterage of secret societies. I can claim no peculiar sagacity, upon a review of the language, in which I then deprecated the evils inseparable from policy, in direct antagonism to the letter and spirit of our institutions. Events which have transpired within our own borders since that period, have abundantly verified my anticipations, and justified the earnestness with which I invoked the most "rigorous exercise of public virtue that the tide of evil flowing in upon us might be restrained." But the sincerity with which I presented the subject to the consideration of my fellow-citizens proved of no avail. The evils have since fallen upon us full blown and most pernicious; and we have learned in the severe school of experience, the perilous extremity, I trust, to which outrage, fraud and violence may be carried, by the proscriptive frenzy of lawless and irresponsible men, banded together for the accomplishment of political ends.

A decent respect for the opinions of my fellow-citizens, a due concern for the dignity of the office I fill, and a proper regard for my personal honor, induce me to employ the present occasion for a dispassionate review of a series of events intimately connected with our domestic policy, and entitled, apart from any concern I may entertain with regard to myself, to your serious consideration.

At the outset, in view of the wanton perversion of truth, the unaccountable ignorance of the theory and practice of our system of Government, or the manifest self-stultification exhibited by many who affect to enlighten the public mind, I am almost at a loss to