

the transcript of proceedings of the late Baltimore County Court, in 1851, as follows:

We, the undersigned, having this day made a careful and thorough examination of the papers and records of the office of the Clerk of the County, such as the law requires, and the Judges of this Court have performed from time to time, avail ourselves on this, the last occasion, and the one which closes our official relations to convey to you in terms of unqualified approbation, our feeble attestations to your upright and perfect discharge of the responsible duties which the laws imposed upon your office. We only thus reiterate what we had frequent occasion to certify, that now, as heretofore, we have uniformly found the voluminous papers and records under your charge, arranged and preserved in perfect order and with all the advantages of economy and convenience of access, and reference so indispensable to its successful administration.

In our repeated examinations, we have never yet discovered the slightest trace of omission or neglect. Through the whole period of our official action, not the smallest complaint has ever been breathed to the Court, from a single individual of that vast public, whose business is daily connected with your office. That these salutary ends should be obtained and certified to the public, was in the view and design of the law which imposed the visitorial power over the office upon the Court, and it is with unfeigned pleasure we now record the fact that you have not disappointed them. In return for your courteous and gentlemanly bearing in all your relations with the Court, and as a testimonial of our just appreciation of your public services, we have directed a copy of this paper to be recorded in the archives, as the last act of the Judges of Baltimore County Court, and as a proper appendage to this, their final report.

Sincerely and respectfully,

WM. FRICK,
JOHN PURVIANCE,
JOHN C. LEGRAND.

Thus it will be seen that the condition of the books and records, and whole management of said office, at the time the late clerk entered upon his duties, was in keeping with the provisions of the law and faithfully secured the vast interests of the citizens whose titles to estates are lodged within its vaults, and confided to the care of its chief officer. The condition in which your committee found it, they regret to be compelled to report, was anything else than that described by the Judges of the late Baltimore County Court.

Your committee examined every book in said office. They found many of them greatly disordered, defaced and deranged;