

PATRIOTISM OF WOMEN.

To Be Commemorated with a Tablet at Assembly Hall.

RESTORATION OF SENATE CHAMBER.

Sons of the American Revolution Urge the General Assembly to Act—A Proposed Museum for Mementoes of Maryland History—The Battle Monument.

When the Maryland Society, Sons of the American Revolution, appointed the committee through whose efforts the Old Congress Hall tablet was erected, the committee was authorized to mark other points of historic interest in Baltimore. The committee has determined, therefore, to mark with a bronze tablet the site of Old Assembly Hall, which was situated, according to Scharr's History of Maryland, at the northeast corner of Holiday and Fayette streets. In this hall a ball was given in honor of General Lafayette in 1781, Lafayette being then on his way to Yorktown with his army.

The soldiers under command of the French General were sorely in need of clothing when they were encamped in Baltimore on their way to Yorktown. While at the ball it was noticed that Lafayette appeared sad. When asked the cause of this he replied that he could not be gay when his soldiers were without suitable clothing. On the day after the ball the ball-room was transformed into a clothing depot, and the patriotic women of Baltimore, in response to General Lafayette's remark, supplied the soldiers with garments.

Subscriptions to the second tablet will be limited to \$5 each, which, as well as subscriptions to make up the balance due for the Old Congress Hall tablet, will be received by Mr. William Hildely Griffith, 227 South's wharf, Baltimore.

Col. Wm. H. Love suggests that a memorial tablet be erected at the house corner of Front and Lombard streets, in which Charles Carroll of Carrollton died.

The restoration of the old Senate chamber in the Maryland State House, at Annapolis, in which General Washington resigned his commission as commander-in-chief of the American army December 23, 1783, has been discussed from time to time for a number of years past. The Senate chamber was then the hall of Congress, which was in session at Annapolis at the time. The surrender by Washington of his commission was witnessed by the Governor and council, other State officers, members of the Legislature, the consul-general of France and many distinguished citizens of that day.

At the session of 1862 of the General Assembly of Maryland a committee of the Senate recommended that the Senate chamber be restored as nearly as possible to the condition in which it was December 23, 1783.

The first action on the part of the present Legislature toward restoring the old chamber was taken last Wednesday, when Senator Hayes offered an order, which was unanimously adopted, requesting J. Appleton Wilson, of Baltimore, and Frank B. Mayer, of Annapolis, to make a report upon the feasibility of the plan and on the probable cost. If the cost estimated be not too great it is likely that an appropriation will be made for the restoration by the present General Assembly, and that the work will commence after the adjournment of the session.

The Maryland Society, Sons of the American Revolution, has adopted resolutions urging the restoration of the chamber. Copies of the resolutions have been sent to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Mr. Wm. Hildely Griffith, vice-president of the society, said yesterday:

"The finances of Maryland are undoubtedly in good condition and the State is well able to undertake the restoration of the Senate chamber. The old room should surely be restored, as nearly as possible, to its former appearance, but instead of afterward being used as a meeting place for the Senate an addition should be built to the State House as a new Senate chamber. The old room, when restored, should be used as a depository and museum for State historical relics and for portraits and paintings of famous men. There are now a large number of old portraits in the State House and families having such relics in their possession should be allowed to deposit them in the old chamber in the keeping of the State. In any of the progressive States of the North or East such a thing as demolishing the old room would never have been countenanced. Now that this movement is afoot all patriotic societies in this State, all historical organizations, labor organizations and patriotic citizens should lend a hand to urge the General Assembly to act at once. All petty jealousies should be cast aside and every one should take an equal part in concerted action for restoring the chamber."

The old Senate chamber was newly fitted up during the term of ex-Gov. John Lee Carroll. Most of the old materials in it are preserved and there are persons still living who assisted in the demolition and who know the details and architectural disposition of the room.

Mr. J. Appleton Wilson, one of those requested to estimate the cost of the changes, says he has not received official notice of his appointment, but that he is ready to make an estimate as soon as the notification comes.

Mr. Louis P. Griffith, president of the Society of the War of 1812, writes to THE SUN complaining of the neglected condition of the Battle monument, erected to the memory of the patriots who fell at the battle of North Point. "A small amount," he says, "would put the monument in a respectable condition, and surely the City Fathers will not refuse to do this act of simple justice. The Society of the War of 1812 urge the City Council to grant their request, made a few months ago, to have the monument cleaned by some process that will preserve it. The city of Baltimore has adopted the Battle monument as its coat-of-arms. It certainly cannot refuse to keep its own escutcheon clean."