

Before closing this report, I must claim excuse from the legislature in yielding for a moment to the influence of those feelings which have been witnessed in every portion of our state on the death of two of our most distinguished and most useful citizens, successively appointed to act on this subject. The universal sympathy which has every where soothed the sorrows of their immediate relatives, while it has proclaimed the just tribute of admiration for the merits of our deceased brethren, has also fully manifested the correct estimate which had been formed of their accomplishments, their virtues and their usefulness.

In the numerous inflictions of a mysterious Providence, which have deprived the state within a short period of some of her highest ornaments, she will long have just occasion to deplore with peculiar and with the deepest concern, the unrelenting mandate which has robbed her senate of a most distinguished member, and her bench of one of the most able jurists that ever graced her courts.

I have the honor to be,

With great respect, yours,

E. F. CHAMBERS.

Annapolis, 19th January, 1825

No. 20.

Report of Col. Boyle.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of Maryland.

Having been appointed one of the commissioners to settle and adjust the western limits of this state, and the dividing line and boundary between this state and the commonwealth of Virginia, it becomes a duty to make known to the legislature, the causes which prevented the commissioners from proceeding to any examination which might eventuate in a final termination of the disputed territory.

When I arrived at Smith's Tavern, the place of rendezvous, the unexpected and mournful intelligence of the death of the late Chancellor Johnson first reached me; an event deeply to be deplored as a private loss or a public calamity. As the surviving commissioners were from that place but a day's journey from Fairfax stone, which had been designated in the act of assembly of Virginia, as the place of be-