

land had been forbidden by the Convention to concur in such action without further authority. As this, however, seemed now to be the only possible course, the Council advised that meetings should be held in all the counties to test the sentiment of the people; and this proving to be strongly in favor of the step, the restrictions on the Maryland delegates were removed by the Convention on June 28.

On July 3, the Convention adopted a Declaration, in which after setting forth, without sonorous generalities or superfluous rhetoric, the nature of their grievances, and their unavailing efforts to obtain redress, they declare that "the King of Great Britain has violated his compact with this people, and they owe no allegiance to him." Thus Maryland ceased to be a Province, and became an independent, self-governed State.

The sources of this volume are as follows:

The original journal of the Convention [C. J.] from which all the proceedings of that body have been taken; a later copy [C. J.²] which has furnished the appended documents Nos. 1-12; and a photographic facsimile of the Associators' engagement (p. 66) from the original at Annapolis.

The original journal of the Council of Safety [C. S. J.]. This is a little defective in some places, but missing words have been supplied from a later copy.

The original letter-book of the Council [C. S. C.] has been used for all the letters written by the Council. Of these there is a later copy which has been collated. This later book contains also copies of the letters to the Council; but diligent search in the collections of the Historical Society has discovered nearly all the originals, and from these our text has been taken. Where the originals could not be found, the later copy has been used, as the margin indicates.

The original engagement of the Associators, preserved under glass at Annapolis, consists of two pieces; apparently torn apart, and pasted down on card-board. On our p. 67 the order of names and arrangement of columns have been preserved, though not the spacing; and the division of the pieces falls just below the names of Joseph Sim, Thomas Dorsey, and Charles Ridgely.

On comparing these signatures with the Journal, 29 names will be found to be missing, viz: Philip Richard Fendall of Charles Co.; Alexander Somerville of Calvert; George Lee and Dr Richard Brooke of Prince George's; Thomas Tillard and John Dorsey of Anne Arundel; Walter Tolly, James Gittings, and Charles Ridgely of John, of Baltimore; Charles Beatty, Baker Johnson, Jacob Funk, Samuel Beall, and Wm. Deakins, Jr., of Frederick; Samuel Durham, Saml. Ashmead, John Beall Howard, Francis Holland, Benjamin Rumsey, and James M<sup>c</sup>Comas, of Harford; Joseph Gilpin and William Rumsey, of Cecil; Richard Lloyd of Kent; John Wallace and John Brown, of Queen Anne's; Robert Harrison of Dorchester; Benson Stainton of Caroline; Josiah Polk of Somerset; Peter Chaille of Worcester.