

which overthrew the Proprietary government, and in virtue of this posed to the English government as the champion and spokesman of the Protestant party in Maryland. The State Papers show that he was in constant correspondence with the Board of Trade and the Secretaries of State, plying them with accusations and slanders against the governor and all the leading men against whom he had a grudge. As his real character was not known in England, and he invested his reports and charges with a plausible circumstantiality worthy of Defoe, he was capable of doing much mischief. Nicholson tried to lay hold of him, but he fled to Virginia, where he was sheltered by Governor Andros.

A number of papers of historical importance were recently discovered, by the means of Henry F. Thompson, Esq., in the Public Record Office, London, and such of these as are included in the present volume are distinguished by the letters P. R. O. in the margin. Several documents from the same source which were discovered too late to be printed under their proper dates, have been added as an appendix.