

The decreased amount of legislation and the reduction in the number of addresses and messages between the two houses and the Governor, explain why the record of the proceedings and acts of these six Assembly sessions is so much less voluminous than that of the four immediately preceding sessions. As measured by the number of printed pages required to record their activities, these six sessions average only eighty-three printed pages for each session, as contrasted with an average of one hundred and seventy-four pages required to record the activities of each of the four preceding sessions as found in the last volume of the Archives (LV). For a proper understanding of these Assembly records they must be studied in connection with the *Proceedings of the Council of Maryland* for this period and the *Correspondence of Governor Horatio Sharpe* printed in earlier volumes of the *Archives of Maryland*.

The proceedings of the Upper House, as printed in this volume, are copied verbatim from the official manuscript libers. The Clerk of the Upper House who made these entries is guilty of many minor slips in spelling and the omission of words. The proceedings of the Lower House and the acts of the Assembly, as they are printed in this volume, exist in both contemporary official manuscript libers and as contemporary printed pamphlets. The manuscript record and printed pamphlets have been checked against each other for errors or variations in their text. The marginal notes as reproduced in this volume of the *Archives* are to be found, however, only in the contemporary printed pamphlets, not in the official manuscript libers. As in preceding volumes, where messages and addresses are recorded in the proceedings of both houses, if of any considerable length, they are printed only in the proceedings of the house in which they originated, if short they appear in the proceedings of both houses. Letters and reports, if they appear on the records of both houses, are reproduced only in the proceedings of the Upper House.

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The next volume of the Archives will contain the *Proceedings of the Provincial Court* for the years 1666 to 1671.

Respectfully submitted,

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