

PREFACE

IT had been planned that this sketch of the history of the Court of Appeals of Maryland should end with the installation in office of the judges first elected to the court under the present constitution of the state, the constitution of 1867. Courtesy might restrain discussion of individual judges any nearer to the present time, and it was feared that perspective might be lacking for comprehension of recent changes in the work and character of the court, some of which must still be going on. With respect to later judges the plan has been adhered to, with one exception: none of those who first came to the court after 1867 are discussed except that Judge James McSherry, Chief Judge from 1896 to 1907, is described briefly in retailing a comparison frequently made by members of the bar between Judge McSherry and some of the judges of 1867. But with respect to a few changes which have taken place, or have been consummated, since 1867, it has been thought proper to depart from the plan; and the changes referred to will be found discussed. Complete consistency with a plan has not been felt to be important.

Some of the intentional limitations of the sketch may be regretted. It may be thought that any history of the court should mention and describe more judges and attorneys than are given places here; but so many might with equal propriety be