

will be given in tabular form followed by an account of changes which occurred during the years in question. Exceptions will be made only in the case of accessions. There is no need now to repeat the lists of manuscript record which were received at the Hall of Records for those early years since they are all included in the *Catalogue of Archival Material at the Hall of Records* which was published in 1942. Major accessions will, however, be noted. The printed book collection, which was nothing to begin with, grew hardly at all during these years, and in any case since no printed materials were accessioned until later, it would be pointless to try to separate the early from the late at this time.

One new section will be added: an account of the Hall of Records before the building itself was occupied. There will also be an appendix in which will be found the various Acts of Assembly having to do with the Hall of Records through 1943. Later Acts are, of course, included in the printed Annual Reports. Finally, instead of titling this sketch *The Early History of the Hall of Records* or something similar, it has been decided to call it *First to Fourth Annual Reports* in order to relieve the difficulty of librarians who are constantly in search of those reports which appeared before the Fifth, the first one printed. For the same reason its format will be the same as later Reports.

Doubtless errors both of omission and commission will be found here by those who were witnesses of or principals in this minute chapter of Maryland institutional history. I ask their forgiveness in advance and to all others I add the caution "errors excepted."

Respectfully submitted,

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