

County (1685-1903), Christ Church Parish in Calvert County (1685-1902) and St. Peter's Parish in Talbot County (1681-1904). St. Peter's also is represented by an almost unbroken series of vestry minutes (1708-1938) as are St. Paul's Parish in Queen Anne's County (1694-1940) and All Faith Parish in St. Mary's County (1693-1892).

The earliest records received however were the Quaker records which were filmed through the cooperation of Walter W. Clagett, Esquire, custodian of the records, and Miss Ruth Startt, Register of Wills of Talbot County, in whose vaults the original records are stored. Among them are three remarkable volumes containing entries of births, marriages and deaths respectively, each of which extends from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries with entries dated as early as 1664.

As usual, a number of interesting and unusual items were received from private sources. An exciting exchange of letters, which eventually led to a duel between Dr. Dennis Claude and Captain Winfield Scott in 1809, is included among the papers deposited by Mrs. George S. Cobb, a descendant of Dr. Claude.

A small manuscript volume containing the law notes of Samuel Chase was presented to us by Mrs. Frederick S. Coale and Mrs. John W. Clarke in behalf of their late husband and father, Frederick Skipwith Coale, a great-grandson of Chase.

The Reverend Thomas F. Biddle, O.S.A., not only arranged for us to get a microfilm copy of his thesis, entitled "Historical Geography of Bladensburg, Maryland," but he also gave us a microfilm copy of the Record Book of the Town of Bladensburg, 1742-1836. The original is now privately owned and it was located by Mr. Biddle while he was writing his thesis. Many of our early municipal records have been lost, so we were particularly glad to discover that this one still exists and to acquire a copy.

The largest acquisition of private documents was the Waters-White Collection, numbering over two hundred items, which was deposited by Mr. William Z. White. As the title indicates, many items in the collection relate to the Waters family, such as an affidavit made before the Council of Maryland, March 21, 1778, that John Waters of Anne Arundel County had taken the Oath of Fidelity, and a license issued in 1798 by the Supervisor of the Revenue allowing Richard Waters to operate a still. Among other miscellaneous materials are three passes issued during the Civil War by Drake deKay, who signed his name in large bold letters so that his illiterate sentries could recognize his signature even though they could not read it; a diary kept by Richard Waters from 1793 to 1808; and twenty-two items of paper money, mostly Confederate. A letter from Edward Karthaus in Amsterdam to Zebu-