

brought in thirty-three volumes of Assessment Books dating from 1793 to 1876. This should be a useful series even though it is far from complete.

On the State level, we are pleased to report another of the periodic transfers of Executive Correspondence which have come to us regularly since 1947 when Governor Herbert R. O'Connor established a precedent by leaving all of his official papers in State custody. The most recent transfer comprises the correspondence of Governor Theodore R. McKeldin for the calendar years 1955 and 1956.

The earlier Executive Papers are present in large quantities, but are obviously incomplete. Just last year an item belonging to this series was located among the papers of the Maryland Historical Society and returned to the State. It is a letter written after the Battle of Yorktown by George Washington to Governor Thomas Sim Lee. It transmits the terms of the surrender signed by Lord Cornwallis and reports the disposition of the prisoners. Unfortunately, the enclosure is missing. This letter ties in closely with another written by Washington a month later in which he expressed his appreciation for the vote of thanks conferred on him for his victory at Yorktown by the General Assembly of Maryland. This second letter had strayed even further afield, having been purchased at a London auction in 1929 by a group of Maryland residents who presented it to the Hall of Records in 1937.

By preparing microfilm copies of the Minutes of the Board of Public Works for the period 1904-1958, we have extended our holdings of this important series from 1851 when the Commissioners of Public Works, as the agency was originally called, commenced operating to 1958 when the current volume begins.

A volume deposited by the Reverend Robert F. Henry, Rector of St. Barnabas Church in King George's Parish, contains both the Vestry Minutes and the Parish Register for approximately the first century of the Parish's history. This was one of the thirty original Protestant Episcopal Parishes established under the Act of 1692. It was then known as Piscataway Parish in Charles County (Prince George's County was not erected until 1696). Later it was called St. John's Parish. The present name was adopted in 1902. The Reverend Mr. Henry is preparing an index to the Parish Register which contains entries dating from 1689 to 1801. He was kind enough to let us microfilm this index which is about three-fourths complete.