

Two bundles of original manumissions transferred to us by the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Anne Arundel County include documents signed by such prominent Marylanders as Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Jeremiah Townley Chase, John Brice and James McHenry.

Most of the records received in recent years have come to us by virtue of our county land records project. Last year, a total of 1197 volumes on 623 reels of microfilm were added to our archival holdings. The counties completed were Allegany, Dorchester, Garrett and Kent. In Baltimore City, 480 volumes were microfilmed, advancing the project from 1905 to 1910. (See section on County Land Records Project for further description of this project).

Lately, we have had our photographer microfilm the marriage records in the counties where he was copying the land records. We plan to obtain the originals or microfilm copies of all surviving county marriage records up to 1914 when the State Department of Health began recording such information on a systematic basis. The marriage records of Allegany (1914), Dorchester (1941), Garrett (1915) and Kent (1915) were completed last year. The date in parenthesis is the terminal date of the records in our custody.

When we have finished the county land records project which will occur soon, we shall resume work on the probate records. The Wills and Orphans Court Proceedings were filmed some years ago. These will be brought up to date as we visit the various counties to film the Inventories, and the Administration Accounts.

A catalogue of the rich collection of records of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run (Hicksite) that was microfilmed the previous year was prepared by Phebe Jacobsen. In addition to listing the records, she wrote a brief history of the Meeting and its subordinate meetings and described its administrative organization and records. A copy of the catalogue and the film were delivered to the Yearly Meeting in accordance with the agreement we had made.

We are now making arrangements to microfilm the records of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Homewood (Orthodox). These records and those of the Third Haven Meeting acquired some years ago will give us practically all of the early Quaker records of Maryland. Eventually, we intend to prepare, and perhaps publish, a consolidated catalogue of all the Quaker records we have.

Early Methodist records are scarce so we were particularly happy to receive the original records of Calvary Methodist Church of Annapolis, which date back to 1822. Many of the leading citizens of Annapolis were members of this church giving the records special value.