

The committee on the Library, considering it part of their appropriate duties, have examined the several Mss. belonging to the State, and find much interesting matter, and *materiel*, relating to the early history of the State, and the United States; but the committee is not prepared to make a selection, or recommend the publication of any of said Mss. *at this time*, except three letters ~~from~~ Governor Sharpe, (hereto annexed) among the Mss. known as the Ridout Mss. which the committee deems of great interest, from the fact of their containing additional testimony, in relation to the character of George Washington.

The importance of these letters will will be appreciated, by referring to a charge made against General Washington, by French historians, a statement of which charge may be found in Spark's edition of Washington's works, vol 2. pp. 447, 455. The letters of Governor Sharpe, being a contemporaneous account, clearly prove the incorrectness of the accusation, and for that reason the committee recommend that they be printed in pamphlet form.

JOSEPH S. COTTMAN,

*From the committee on the Library.*

February 6th, 1840.