

Resolutions requiring the Librarian to transmit copies of "Dorsey Laws," "Bozman's History of Maryland," and other works, to different Library institutions in the several counties; to supply the Clerk of the Court of Howard District with the "Maryland Reports"—to have the furnace under the Library repaired—and to note in "Dorsey's Compilation," under the appropriate title and page, each and every alteration and amendment, which shall be made in the laws at each session, have severally been complied with.

In obedience to a resolution of the Legislature, passed in 1837, certain Papers and Documents, relating to the early history of the State were purchased of the Executors of Horace Ridout—they were not fully examined by any one competent to form a proper estimate of their importance, until these distinguished scholars and historians, Messrs. Bankroft and Sparks, came to Annapolis, and perused, and by the permission of the Legislature previously obtained, made full extracts from them. These gentlemen concurred in the opinion, as to their great value, and pronounced them to be of far more interest, than any papers connected with our early history, to be found in the archives of any of the States. Among these papers it is thought, that the primary cause of our Revolutionary struggle may be discovered. Beside the secret correspondence of the agents of Great Britain, whose conduct was the subject of complaint and resistance, they disclose the true motives for the course pursued by the mother country, and of its colonial Governors. Many matters which otherwise are inexplicable, are by them fully exhibited in their proper light. As the hand of time, and bad usage, have borne heavily upon them, and as there is every probability, that these records will, before a great lapse of time, be wholly obliterated, unless some measures are taken for their preservation, it is most respectfully suggested to the honorable Committee, whether some steps ought not to be taken, to collate and preserve them—so rare and precious a record, of the most important era in the history of our State and country, ought not, it would seem to me, to be allowed to be lost, when by the adoption of timely measures, and at a small cost, it can so easily be preserved and perpetuated. The increase of the Library during the past year, has been 664 volumes. The last catalogue was printed in 1837; since then, the number of books added to the Library is very nearly five thousand, which, inculcates the necessity of authorising a new catalogue to be prepared.

I have the honor to be,

The Committees ob't serv't,

JNO. H. T. MAGRUDER,

State Librarian.