

**PAPERS RELATING
CHIEFLY TO THE
MARYLAND LINE
DURING THE REVOLUTION**

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Papers Relating Chiefly to the Maryland Line During the Revolution by Thomas Balch

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THOMAS BALCH

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P A P E R S

RELATING CHIEFLY TO

THE MARYLAND LINE

URING THE

R E V O L U T I O N .

EDITED BY THOMAS BALCH.

One Hundred and fifty Copies Printed.

OFFICE OF
CALIFORNIA

PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED FOR THE SEVENTY-SIX SOCIETY.

T. K. AND P. G. COLLINS, PRINTERS.

1857.

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THE UNIVERSITY

OF CALIFORNIA

THESE papers are printed under the title of "Maryland Papers," because most of them are written by or relate to the officers and soldiers of the justly famous Maryland Line. A few of them concern the operations in Virginia. Of these, the most interesting are the letters which passed between Gen. Weedon and Gen. Phillips. It will be remembered that Mr. Jefferson, in his letter to the Virginia Delegates in Congress, under date of May 10, 1781 (*Randolph's Jefferson*, i. 220), states that Gen. Phillips' correspondence was conducted in such a style that Steuben and Lafayette were both obliged to threaten him with a discontinuance of intercourse, and narrates the mode in which he (Mr. Jefferson) compelled the British general to "swallow a pill of retaliation;" and the charges made in his letter have more or less reappeared in all subsequent writers concerning this period of American history. These letters place Gen. Phillips in a very different and an amiable light; and the tone of Gen. Weedon's remarks—a proud, high-spirited man, as unlikely as Lafayette or Steuben to tolerate "insolence"—the previous interchange of civilities, and "the personal esteem expressed for each other by the two gentlemen, Gen. Phillips' forbearance concerning the flag-of-truce, his retention of prisoners at Gen. Weedon's request, his complaint concerning "the barbarous letter" which he had received from Mr. Jefferson and the manner in which Gen. Weedon responds to that complaint; will doubtless contribute to relieve the character of the British officer from the accusations preferred by Mr. Jefferson.

The larger part of these papers are from the collections of the gentleman, who so kindly allowed the Society to print the Massachusetts Papers from his MSS.

PHILADELPHIA, 23 July, 1857.

DANIEL M^cCURTIN.

JOURNAL

OF THE TIMES AT THE SIEGE OF BOSTON

SINCE OUR ARRIVAL

AT

CAMBRIDGE, NEAR BOSTON.

Boston, August 9, 1775.

PRELIMINARY NOTE.

No colony responded more promptly or with more hearty zeal than Maryland to the resolutions of Congress, passed 14th June, 1775, asking for soldiers to serve against the British army in Boston. The two companies, assigned as her quota, were raised with the utmost alacrity and spirit, and the following Journal kept by a private in one of them, gives some account of their services on that occasion.

The particular part of the State required to furnish these companies was Frederick County. As then constituted, it embraced besides the territory now known by that name, the present Washington, Montgomery, and Alleghany counties, and a part of Carroll, within its limits; and a word may not be out of place concerning the origin and character of its inhabitants, whose patriotism and martial spirit were quenchless and who sent forth certainly as many, and perhaps more "regulars," in proportion to population than any corresponding district in the country.

Most of the humbler settlers in the upper district were of German birth or parentage; a few were of Scotch or Irish extraction. They were people of industrious and thrifty habits, themselves and families tilling their small farms, independent, hardy, and frugal; pious withal, carefully preserving the old, russetbound, Dutch Bibles, which contained the records of their honest though humble homesteads, and, as even at this day, religious services were mostly performed in that which was the language of their forefathers, and was still dearest to their simple-minded descendants.