

"Mr. Clark is the Master Workman and he wants more Hands if they will take it Roof and smooth as the Work Runs it Will be a Constant Jobb all the Summer and Winter If You Chose to Come You May Get Employ if it Should be Convenient for you to help me to the Money that is Due to Me Please to Leave it at My Mothers and if You Come Down You May Not Mind till You see me No More at Preasent But I Remain Your Humble servent

Joshua Botts"⁴

Many discouragements beset Clark's work from the very beginning. For one thing, it was difficult to get plank and scantling, as well as large timbers. We find the Intendant writing repeatedly to Colonel Joseph Dashiell, who had the contract for furnishing the timbers and who was finding it impossible to get them out of the marsh because of the unseasonable wetness of the weather. However, in time, the work did get started and continued at least through the year 1788, when we find the last payment to Clark noted in the Council Proceedings.⁵

The total sum paid to him was approximately the same as the cost of the original State House, moreover, for several years after 1788, Clark petitioned the General Assembly for additional payment but with indifferent success.⁶

Clark failed in his effort to get additional funds from the Legislature, and his daughter, Mary, suffered the same misfortune, some thirty years later.

"To The Honorable The General Assembly of Maryland and Gentlemen of the Senate

The Humble Memorial of Mary S. Magee only Surviving Orphan of Joseph Clarke Architect of the State House, Church & Colledge In this City

"Deeply Impressed with a high Sense of the Justice liberality & Benevolence of your Honorable Body, your memorialist with all due deference Respectfully ventures to lay before you her very peculiarly distressing situation, and Implores from your Generosity & humanity some Small pecuniary Assistance, Your Memorialist Indulges the hope, that it will be some feeble Claim on the attention of your Hon^{ble} Body when is known that she is a native of this City, her Father having formerly been a Citizen of this place nearly 20 years. he left here 1794 - at which time there was a Ballance owed him by the State of Maryland of £17,000 Maryland Currency on leaving here he went to Washington City and by Transacting Business there for the firm of Morris Nicholson & Greenleaf he lost by their failure the Sum of \$49,000 in one year which loss together with some severe domestic afflictions, among which was the Death of his Eldest Son Horatio Clark so deeply affected his health that he was advised by Both Friends and Physicians to Try & Voyage to Europe for its restoration -