HERBERT R. O'CONOR
GOVERNOR

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

November 27, 1946

Mr. Leslie Edgar Bliss,
Librarian, The Henry E. Huntington
Library and Art Gallery,
San Marino, California.

Dear Mr. Bliss:

Within the next few days you will receive as a gift of the State of Maryland a positive microfilm copy of all the Colonial records of the Maryland State Government and the Land and Probate records of several of the Counties.

This enormous collection, containing over two hundred and fifty 100-foot reels of thirty-five millimeter film, was printed from a negative film prepared at the Hall of Records in 1941-1942 as an insurance measure against the hazards of war. Three positive copies have recently been made at the Library of Congress at the joint expense of that institution and the Maryland Hall of Records. One of these copies has been retained by the Library of Congress. A second copy will be sent as a gift of Maryland to the Public Record Office in London. The third copy is being sent to you.

It is my thought, seconded by that of the Hall of Records Commission and the Archivist, that a gift of this nature to the Huntington Library would make available to the scholar of the Western part of our country a unique body of materials concerned with the origin and development of one of the original thirteen states. In choosing a West Coast depository there was a unanimity of opinion that the Huntington Library was unsurpassed in its rich collection, its excellent facilities and its distinguished direction.

It is my hope that you will find this gift a worthy addition to your scholarly resources. It is also my hope that it will stimulate research in the History of Maryland, a history of which we are naturally very proud.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert R. O'Conor

Governor

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