

justify this, or where, as in the case of writs, the stereotyped phraseology makes the missing words certain.

One abbreviation, constantly recurring in the record from 1675 to 1679, when Bloomfield and Painter were the registers, for a while gave rise to some uncertainty. In the brief notation made by the Register in recording the issuance of certain writs out of Chancery, such as *scire facias*, *replevin*, and *ne exeat provinciam*, issued for service to the various county sheriffs, recurs frequently the abbreviated Latin phrase "ad vic Com St. Maries", or "ad vic Com Balt;", etc., as the county may be, and in one instance "ad vice Com Kent" (page 164). This is without question an abbreviation for "ad vicecomitem Comitum St. Maries", to be translated thus: "To the sheriff (vicecomitem) of the County (Comitum) of St Maries". This interpretation is confirmed by the entry of a writ on page 196 reading, "ad Coron^r Com. Ch.:", obviously to be translated, "to the Coroner of Charles County". The question is only raised because in one instance the clerk instead of "vic" has written "vicend" (page 289), suggesting the possibility that the abbreviation "vic" or "vice" might be that for some other Latin word than *vicecomes*.

For the index to this volume of the *Archives* the editor is indebted to Miss Elizabeth Mann and Mr. Herbert T. Tiffany. While Miss Mann is responsible for the index in general, those portions of it dealing with the more technical legal aspects of the subject matter have been compiled by Mr. Tiffany, the author of well known legal textbooks, and also the Reporter of the decisions of the Maryland Court of Appeals and editor of its Maryland Reports. The index is preceded by a table of cases which are to be found in this volume of the Proceedings of the Court of Chancery.

The next volume of the *Archives*, which is now in press, will be the Proceedings and Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland for the years 1755 and 1756, to be followed later by two volumes of mid-seventeenth century county court proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

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