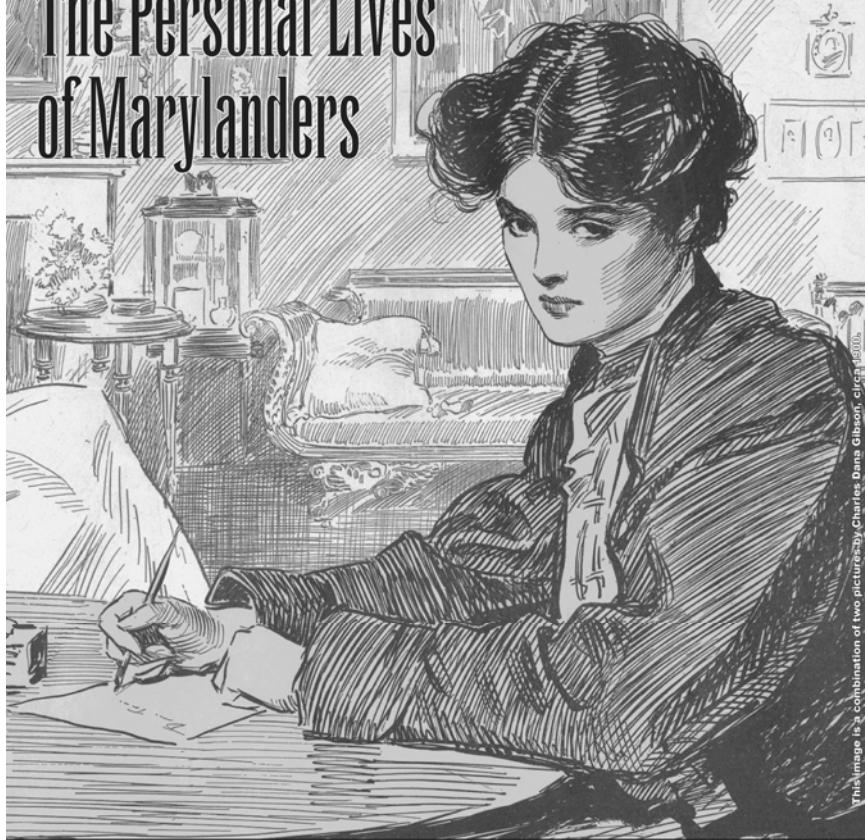


IN THE PARLOR

The Personal Lives of Marylanders



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Should anyone do me the honor to read these pages... -- Susan Mathiot Gale, July 18, 1868

Drawing on diaries, letters, photographs, scrapbooks, published materials, government records, and memorabilia, *In the Parlor: The Personal Lives of Marylanders*, considers how the stories of the lives of eight Marylanders illuminate and reflect larger historical themes and realities, such as religion, war, politics, race, careers, and family life.

The people and collections highlighted in this exhibit span a wide range of political, religious, social, and economic spheres. Their lives spanned the 19th and 20th centuries. The materials that these people left behind, either intentionally with the historical record in mind, or merely as a part of their daily routine, provide an intimate look at both private and public life, and yet altogether they comprise only a portion of Maryland history. Included are the stories of Maryland politicians, women, teachers, scientists, writers, and people involved in the University of Maryland community. In many ways, their lives overlapped, although none of the individuals in this exhibit, to our knowledge, were acquainted with each other.

It is our hope that visitors to our “parlor” will learn that even the most simple records and accounts of events by individuals, combined with official records and other documentation, become part of the historical record and help future generations learn about past history in a very personal way.

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Biographical Entries

John H. Alexander
1812-1867
Annapolis, Baltimore
Chief Engineer of Maryland, Businessman,
Scholar, Father

John Henry Alexander was born in Annapolis, Maryland, in 1812, the youngest child of William and Mary (Harwood Stockett) Alexander. He attended St. John's College in Annapolis, graduating in 1827 when he was only fifteen. He spent the next four years reading law privately, but apparently he did not take the bar exam, choosing instead to work for the Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad. John also attended medical lectures in Baltimore, though he did not receive a degree in medicine.

As part of his work for the railroad, John performed surveys and made maps of the line. This experience, combined with his academic achievements, led to John's 1833 appointment as Chief Engineer of Maryland, with a charge to create a complete map of Maryland. While carrying out his research for this task, John mapped the richest coal deposits in the state. He joined with a friend, P. T. Tyson, Esq., to found the George Creek Iron and Coal Company. By the time John resigned his position as Chief Engineer in 1837, the company's success had made him financially secure.

John held a wide variety of professional appointments over his lifetime. In addition to his time as Chief Engineer of Maryland, he served as Geologist of Maryland, and, in 1857, was appointed Commissioner to England to work on creating an international system of weights and measures. John was also a professor of civil engineering at the University of Pennsylvania and professor of physics at the University of Maryland in Baltimore.

He published a number of works including a treatise on international coinage of Great Britain and the United States (1857) and an opinion on the location of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in Wheeling, Virginia [now West Virginia] (1850). He was a fellow of the American Philosophical Society and a member of the Geographical and Statistical Society and the Maryland and Pennsylvania Historical Societies. In 1847, John was elected an honorable member of the Belle Lettres Society of the College of St. James in Hagerstown, Maryland.

John married Margaret Hammer on June 4, 1836, in Baltimore. They had at least two sons, the second one born in Baltimore in October 1838. Throughout his life, John maintained close ties with his older brothers, William (born circa 1803) and Thomas Stockett (born 1801.) The brothers shared a deep devotion to the Whig party, and William often sent John detailed accounts of the actions of the House of Delegates in Annapolis.

John was active in the congregation of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Baltimore and wrote a concordance to the Book of Common Prayer as well as two volumes of religious poetry.

John Henry Alexander died on March 2, 1867.

Leonidas Dodson
1822-1889
St. Michael's, Easton
Teacher, Banker, Father

Leonidas Dodson was born on October 12, 1822, in the town of St. Michaels in Talbot County to William Dodson and Amelia S. Brown. As a young man, he taught for several years in the Female Department of the primary school in St. Michael's before moving to Easton in 1854. There he held a number of positions at Easton National Bank, eventually becoming a teller. A devoted Methodist, Leonidas served the church as a trustee, Sunday school teacher, chorister, and lay preacher. He was also an active member of the Masons and the Odd Fellows.

Family legend held that Leonidas taught Frederick Douglass to read while working for his mother's cousin, Thomas Auld, who at one time owned Douglass. This seems unlikely, as Douglass only lived with Auld for nine months in 1832, when Leonidas was eleven and Douglass fifteen. It is, however, possible that Leonidas met Douglass and observed the cruel treatment that Thomas Auld meted out to his slaves.

Leonidas married Eleanor Jane Jefferson (1821-1867) in 1846, and together they had seven children, of whom three survived. Their youngest child, William Patterson Dodson, was one of the first Methodist missionaries to Africa. After Eleanor's death, Leonidas remarried and had four children with his second wife, Salina Virginia Barnett (called "Jennie" and "Ginnie" in his journals). Two of Dodson's children with Barnett survived to adulthood.

Leonidas Dodson died on November 20, 1889.

Mary Eliza Bradbury
1830-1875
Elkton
Teacher, Churchgoer, Wife, Mother

Mary Eliza Bradbury was born in Maine on May 14, 1830. She spent several years in the town of Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland. Her father, Joseph P. Bradbury, was a farmer and livery stable owner.

Mary was a schoolteacher who established her own school. She also taught African-American children on occasion on Sundays. A devoutly religious woman, Mary devoted much of her time to prayer and spiritual inquiry at the First Methodist Church in Elkton.

In 1853, Mary met Lewis [Louis] H. Jackson of Wilmington, Delaware. Jackson's family may also have lived in Elkton at one time. Lewis was born in 1837 in Pennsylvania.

Mary married Lewis on March 3, 1856, in Elkton. The couple remained in Elkton, where Lewis worked as a schoolteacher, and had their first child, Fannie [Fanny], in 1857. Lewis was also a certified Methodist Episcopal Exhorter (lay preacher). He became an Episcopal minister and served as the rector at the St. Mary Anne's Parish, also known as North Elk Parish, from 1861 to 1868. From 1869 to 1871, he preached at Christ Church in Port Republic, Calvert County, Maryland. The couple had two more daughters, Mary [Mamie] L. (born circa 1868) and Harriet [Hattie] E. (born 1869).

In 1874, Lewis became the rector at Trinity Parish, Charles County, Maryland, where he remained until 1881. Mary Eliza Bradbury Jackson died at the Rectory in Trinity Parish on October 23, 1875.

Susan Mathiot Gale

1831-1878

West River

Mother, Widow

Susan Mathiot Gale was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1831 to Augustus Mathiot and Mary Hodges. She was baptized at the First German Reformed Church in the city on February 2, 1842. Her father, Augustus Mathiot, was an original founder of American Odd Fellowship (Independent Order of Odd Fellows), which was organized in 1823. By trade, Augustus manufactured chairs and cabinet-ware.

On January 7, 1856, Susan married George Gale, Esq., of West River, Maryland. George Gale was born in 1799 and was a widower. He owned a valuable estate in Anne Arundel County, which, at the time of the 1850 census, was worth \$50,000. George Gale died on July 22, 1856, leaving Susan widowed and pregnant. Her daughter, Georgietta, was born shortly afterwards.

In the years following her husband's death, Susan received several offers of marriage from local gentlemen. She spent her days visiting neighbors, receiving guests in her home, reading, writing in her journal, caring for her daughter, visiting her family in Baltimore, taking singing lessons, and attending church. None of the men she met in 1859, the year of her journal, persuaded her to marry them.

In 1860, Susan married Reverend Frederick R. Anspach, D. D. (born 1815). Anspach had been married before as well; his first wife, Lily Rinehart, died in 1858. Lily and Frederick had at least two children who died at a young age, and whether or not he had any surviving children

when he married Susan is unknown. Anspach was a Lutheran pastor for nine years at the Churches of Barren Hill and White Marsh and subsequently at Hagerstown, Maryland. A sermon delivered on the occasion of the death of Henry Clay was his first publication. He also wrote a pamphlet about the popular trend of spirituality and “spirit-rapping.” In 1857 he moved to Baltimore, where he became a contributor to the *Lutheran Observer*, and in 1858 its principal editor, an office in which he continued until 1861. He was also the pastor at the First Reformed Church of Baltimore, which may be how he and Susan met.

Reverend Anspach died in 1867. In 1869, Susan appended her 1859 journal with one entry:

Nine long years have passed away...and again I am a widow. Should anyone do me the honor to read these pages, I will satisfy his or her curiosity by the information that none of the gentlemen mentioned in this book became my husband.

Susan Mathiot Gale Anspach died on November 12, 1878, in Baltimore, Maryland.

Edith F. Brooke Green
1869-1954
Sandy Spring, Brookeville
Farmer, Wife, Mother

Edith F. Brooke Green was born in 1869, the daughter of Dr. Charles H. Brooke and Anna Farquhar Brooke. Charles, Anna, and their three children – Henry, Edith, and Mary – lived on a farm in Sandy Spring,

Montgomery County, Maryland. Charles had grown up on the farm, “Falling Green”, and inherited the property upon his father’s death in 1862. His sister, Eliza, called “Auntie Brooke” by her nieces, resided with the family at “Falling Green.”

The Brooke family enjoyed being part of a social network of extended family, friends, and neighbors in Maryland, Washington, D. C., Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Short and extended visits, teas, dinners, parties, holiday celebrations, and plenty of letter writing filled the Brookes’ busy social life. They were active members of the Quaker community of Friends in Sandy Spring and regularly attended Meetings. Although Charles Brooke was a practicing doctor, he farmed his land with the help of his family and seasonal workers.

Edith’s earliest schooling took place at home under the instruction of her mother. As a teenager, Edith attended the Rockland School. She also helped with chores around the house and on the farm. When Edith was fifteen years old, she began keeping a diary every day. There she recorded her daily activities and the comings and goings of her family. Sometimes she wrote her most private thoughts in a secret code.

When she was twenty-eight years of age, Edith married Dr. William French Green and moved to the nearby town of Brookeville in 1897. Didi and French, as they affectionately called each other, enjoyed sharing time together. They had two children, Meredith and Mary. Although she probably received help from servants, Edith did much of her own housework, childrearing, and social entertaining. The death of Edith’s son, Meredith, when he was just nine years old, devastated the Green and Brooke families. Edith’s daughter, Mary, lived through adulthood, although she never married.

After the death of her husband in 1919, Edith spent some time living with friends in Washington, D. C. Edith and her daughter often visited “Falling Green,” where

Edith's sister, Mary, resided all her life. In 1949, the Brooke sisters sold "Falling Green" to Richard and La Verna White, with the option of living there for the rest of their lives. In 1954, Edith entered the hospital, and her diary entries ended.

Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods
1873-1952
College Park
Writer, Wife, Mother

Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods was born in Penn Yan, New York, in 1873, but she was raised in Washington, D. C. Her family may have lived in Berwyn, Maryland, for a time, the hometown of her father, Charles W. Davis. Bertha's career as a published writer began early, when her work in her high school literary magazine caught the attention of a fellow student's mother, Frances Hodgson Burnett, author of *The Secret Garden* and *A Little Princess*. Burnett invited Bertha to participate in weekly literary gatherings in Washington and encouraged her to seek publication. Bertha's work first appeared in "Kate Field's Washington," a section in *The Washington Post*, in 1891.

Her stories, poems, and nonfiction accounts of travel and the natural world found an audience in other newspapers, but especially in children's religious periodicals. The *Christian Register*, *Congregationalist*, *Youth's Companion*, and especially the *Christian Endeavor* all frequently published Bertha's work.

Bertha married Albert Fred Woods, an Illinois native serving as assistant chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, on June 1, 1898. The couple had four sons, of whom two, Mark Winton and

Winton De Ruyter, survived to adulthood. In 1910, the family moved to Minnesota for Albert to take an appointment in the College of Agriculture at the University of Minnesota. The family returned to the Washington area in 1917, when Albert became president of the Maryland State College of Agriculture (later the University of Maryland). The family resided in Berwyn and attended the Berwyn Presbyterian Church.

Throughout her married life, Bertha continued to write and publish both poetry and prose. She produced five books of poetry, several published by the University of Maryland Press. Instructive literature for children, travel or nature essays, and religious poetry were her most significant areas of work. Her other activities included membership in the League of American Pen Women, the Audubon Society, and the Presbyterian Club.

Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods died on February 14, 1952.

Theodore L. Bissell 1899-1992 College Park Entomologist, Professor, Historian, Father

Theodore Lemuel Bissell was born in St. Mary's, Ohio, on December 9, 1899. His family moved to Maryland, and he attended Washington High School in Princess Anne, Maryland. He attended the Maryland State College of Agriculture, now the University of Maryland, College Park, where he received a B. S. in entomology in 1920. During his college years, Theodore was an active member of the New

Mercer Literary Society, the Horticulture Club, and the Rossborough Club, as well as serving as captain of Company C of the corps of cadets during his senior year.

Theodore received an M. S. in entomology from Cornell University in 1936. He worked as a quarantine inspector for the State Bureau of Industry in Pennsylvania in 1920 and for the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture from 1921 until 1924. Bissell was an entomologist for the Georgia Experiment Station from 1925 to 1947, when he joined the faculty of the University of Maryland as an associate professor of entomology; he taught at the university until 1968. Theodore was president of the Maryland Entomological Society in 1982 and 1983.

Areas of particular interest to Theodore included the taxonomy of hickory aphids, insect control, and the history of University of Maryland campus. In 1978, the Prince George's County Historical Society honored him with the St. George's Award for his research on Prince George's County history. He served on the University Park Town Council from 1951 to 1959, and he was a member of First Methodist Church of Hyattsville, Woodside Methodist Church in Silver Spring, and the Methodist Historical Society.

Theodore's wife, Isabel Veitch Bissell, died in 1964. The couple had three children. Theodore Bissell died on September 22, 1992.

Theodore Roosevelt McKeldin
1900-1974
Baltimore
Lawyer, Politician, Orator, Father

Theodore Roosevelt McKeldin was born in Baltimore on November 20, 1900. His father, James A. McKeldin, was a Scots-Irish stonemason who later became a city policeman. His mother, Dora Greif McKeldin, was the daughter of German immigrants.

In 1925, Theodore graduated from the University of Maryland Law School. He later studied economics at Johns Hopkins University. In 1927, he established a law practice but soon interrupted it to accept a political appointment as executive secretary to Mayor William F. Broening of Baltimore, whom he supported in the 1927 election. He returned to his private law practice in 1931. Theodore married Honolulu Claire Manzer in 1935; they had two children, Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., and Clara Whitney.

In 1939, Theodore ran unsuccessfully for mayor of Baltimore, losing to Howard W. Jackson. He suffered another setback in 1942 when he opposed Herbert R. O'Conor in the Maryland gubernatorial race. The following year, however, he defeated Jackson in the race for mayor of Baltimore.

Theodore first served as mayor of Baltimore from 1943 to 1947. Among the achievements of his administration were the completion of Friendship Municipal Airport (now Baltimore-Washington International Airport); the construction of a new civic center [now the Baltimore Arena]; and the management of Baltimore's wartime economy. He also appointed the first African American to the Baltimore School Board, which earned him a reputation

as an advocate of racial integration and civil rights. He was known for his speaking abilities and spent a great deal of time working on his speeches.

In 1946, Theodore again lost his bid for the governorship, this time to William Preston Lane, Jr. Four years later, however, he faced Lane again and successfully used an anti-sales-tax platform to defeat him. As governor of Maryland from 1951 to 1959, Theodore launched a vigorous program of reform and reconstruction, which included a twelve-year plan for state highway construction. He achieved nationwide prominence at the 1952 Republican Convention when he was selected to nominate Dwight D. Eisenhower for the presidency.

In 1959, Theodore ran again for mayor of Baltimore, losing this time to Harold Grady. He then retired to private law practice with his associate, William Adelson. In 1963, he returned to public life, narrowly defeating Philip H. Goodman in the race for mayor of Baltimore. During his second term as mayor, which lasted from 1963 to 1967, he embarked upon a wide-ranging program of urban renewal, which included the beginnings of the redevelopment of Baltimore's Inner Harbor, construction of a new municipal building, and the planned elimination of the city's slums. Theodore also continued to support the civil rights movement by hosting a meeting of the Congress of Racial Equality in July 1966. He was a vocal supporter of the state of Israel and a founder and president of the America-Israel Society; he also assisted with the sale of Israeli war bonds throughout the 1960s.

After his retirement from the Baltimore political scene, Theodore's interests and activities remained varied. In 1967, President Johnson appointed him to a panel of American observers chosen to supervise the September elections in South Vietnam. In 1968, Theodore testified in opposition to capital punishment before the U. S. Congress.

Theodore R. McKeldin died on August 10, 1974.

I. Behind Closed Doors

Poor fellow, he expressed some desire to see into my journal, thinking, I suppose, that he would find something here highly favorably to himself....If he could but see it! I could not help smiling in my sleeve, last evening, as I thought of all I had written.
-- Susan Mathiot Gale, 1859

Three of the biggest landmarks in life are birth, marriage, and death. Between those events, people carry on their day-to-day activities, some of which are notable, and most of which are not. Public records tell a portion of the story. Census records tell us who lived where and when, and they are an excellent starting point for the *facts* of life.

According to the 1850 Maryland census, for example, Susan Mathiot Gale's first husband, George Gale, lived on a farming estate worth \$50,000 with a woman roughly the same age as he and two significantly younger women with a different last name. Marriage records tell us that the first wife's name was Margaret and that she died in 1854. The Baltimore *Sun* announced Susan and George's marriage in January 1856. Cemetery records show that George Gale died six months later, in June 1856, and his grave may still be viewed at the Quaker cemetery in Galesville, Maryland. In order to find out about his personality, it is necessary to turn to Susan's diary of 1859. She

only mentions her late husband twice, but from one of those entries it is possible to ascertain that she felt his absence keenly. She does not mention any other women in the household or any other relatives of her husband's except for a "Captain Gale." In 1859, her brother Gus lived with her on the estate and helped her to manage it.

We know from letters that Mary Eliza Bradbury was quite fond of Lewis H. Jackson, but since her letters end in 1855 and do not mention marriage, more research is necessary. An announcement in the *Cecil Democrat* confirms that they were married and provides a date of 1856. No records clearly tell us the names of John H. Alexander's children, but we know from a letter written by his brother that a second son was born in 1838. Leonidas Dodson wrote with pain in his journals and records about the deaths of several of his children; a daughter died of measles, and his son Joseph was accidentally killed by a classmate who was playing with a gun in 1871. However, he neglected to say much about the death of his first wife and his marriage to his second nine months later.

Historical documents become social memory, and because of this, one cannot discount the importance of a scrap of paper, a newspaper clipping, or hastily scribbled notes in a journal. All of these documents form the basis for the *story* in history and help us to understand how people lived and, more importantly, how they *felt* about the events in their lives.

Birth

I.1 *Letter from Rt. Rev. Harry Lee Doll, D.D. to Theodore R. McKeldin, Baltimore, November 20, 1970.*

Letter from Robert R. Strott to Theodore R. McKeldin, Annapolis, November 24, 1970.

Many had a difficult time believing that McKeldin, a man full of such energy and action, could be 70 years old. For his 70th birthday, there was a party, and friends, family, and admirers sent in letters of congratulation.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

I.2 *Letter from Caroline Ziegler to her grandfather (Gaga), Theodore R. McKeldin, Baltimore, November 1970.*

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

I.3 *Letter from William Alexander to his brother John H. Alexander, Baltimore, October 9, 1838.*

In 1838, John H. Alexander was twenty-six years old, and had already resigned from his post as Chief Engineer of Maryland. He was in Lonaconing, Allegany County, Maryland, establishing the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company. The Lonaconing Furnace, which produced its first iron in 1839, was the first successful coke furnace in the United States. The pioneering operations of the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company were in part responsible for the location of the B & O Railroad line from Cumberland to Piedmont, West Virginia. They were also in large

measure responsible for the opening of the important coal trade in the George's Creek valley southwest of Frostburg. It was the coal trade of the George's Creek basin from Barrellville to Westernport, which was responsible for the prosperity of Western Maryland between the Civil War and World War I.

In this letter, William assured his brother that all was well and that John's wife, Margaret, had delivered "another fine son."

From the Papers of John H. Alexander.

I.4 *Edith Brooke Green's "Mother's Journal," Brookeville, 1901.*

Edith Brooke Green kept this "Sacred and Private Day Book," throughout the year 1901, during her pregnancy with her first child, Meredith. She wrote:

In this little book I thought it would be nice to put down from time to time any interesting little things about the little life that is to come into our home some time.

She talks about hopes for a girl (her first child was a son, although she did eventually have a daughter, Mary) and making socks for the baby. She continued by describing her son's birth in April 1901.

Slept some - very weak and painful. Dr. Green is dearer, and lovelier than ever and I think I have never loved him before! Everyone kind. Mother my constant comfort. Mary and Harriet came for a moment. Mary seemed to admire the little one. Harriet cried when she looked at him.

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

Children

I.5 *Father's Day Cards from Clara and Ted McKeldin to their father, Baltimore, 1942.*

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

I.6 *"The Child," by Bertha Gerneaux Woods, Scribner's Magazine, December 1900.*

Bertha Gerneaux Woods published many poems related to domesticity. This poem, illustrated by acclaimed illustrator Jesse Willcox Smith for *Scribner's Magazine*, addressed the theme of motherhood.

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

I.7 *Journal Entries by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River, May 1859.*

Susan Mathiot Gale's daughter was approximately three years old in 1859, and the mother often recorded information on her daughter's health and well-being. Here she wrote: *Georgie was quite sick last night. I am afraid she was too much out in the sun yesterday.* Later in the week, she continued with a discussion of the health of her brother, who helped her manage the estate. *Gust does not feel very well this morning and wishes me to make a note of it, as being an unusual thing. I suppose... Georgie enjoys good health and is as sunburnt and rosy as possible.*

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

I.8 *Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, Easton, January 15, 1857.*

Raising children can be a trying affair.

Endeavoring to help my dear daughter Helen in her lesson, I became impatient and speaking short to her she burst into tears...

Leonidas wrote that he felt “ashamed and confounded” and attempted to help his daughter in a more patient manner.

I record this, that in after years, if my dear child lives, and should read these lines, she may feel assured that her father loves her now, as he has ever done with an affection that death cannot destroy.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

Growing Up

I.9 *Letter from Theodore R. McKeldin to Ella Wagner Baltimore, September 30, 1965.*

As mayor of Baltimore, McKeldin made it his business to know everything that was going on in the city. In this letter, McKeldin responded to a newspaper article entitled “A Lady Remembers” featuring comments by Ella Wagner, who mentioned playing with “Mayor McKeldin's sisters on a lot with green hills and valleys on Stockholm St.”

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

I.10

"For and About Women," by Anna Vernon Dorsey, The Washington Post, February 4, 1894.

Bertha Gerneaux Davis was fortunate enough in her youth to be friends with Vivian Burnett, the youngest son of author Frances Hodgson Burnett. Here, she was mentioned in a society column as a “shy, modest-looking little girl” and the author of some “charming verses.”

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

I.11

Sketch of Bertha Gerneaux Davis in the Washington Times, May 19, 1895.

By the age of twenty-three, Bertha Gerneaux Davis had already been a published writer for four years. Her work first appeared in “Kate Field’s Washington,” a section in *The Washington Post*, in 1891.

A profile of her done in the *Washington Times* in 1895 described her as “among the youngest of Washington’s debutantes in literature” and went on to say that “it will be some time before she attains her twentieth year.” Bertha crossed this part out, as she was already three years past her twentieth birthday at the time of the article.

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

Family/Genealogy

I.12 *Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson (Dodson family genealogy), Easton, 1858.*

On this page of his journal, Leonidas Dodson attempted to reconstruct his family genealogy, including pasting signatures of many of his relatives into the book. In 1874, he appended this entry with a note written in violet ink that stated:

I have no information written or traditional of my foreparents beyond grandfather and grandmother. On the farm called Ray's Point near St. Michaels... is a tombstone bearing this inscription - Esther Dodson died July 1, 1801, Age 61 years. - This doubtless was my great grandmother - whose birth was 1740 and whose age was 22 years when my grandfather was born.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

I.13 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River, August 14, 1859.*

Susan Mathiot Gale often hosted visitors for extended visits on her estate. In August 1859, her young cousin, Laura Mathiot, came to stay, but the two women did not always get along.

She made me very angry yesterday, going to church. I happened to say, "Laura, I see the Mathiot very plainly written in your countenance." "Oh, cousin Susie," said she, "do you think so? I am very sorry.: " "Indeed!" said I, "and pray why?" (for I have always considered the Mathiots an intellectual looking family, at least, if not a handsome one). "Oh," said she, with as much scorn as could well be expressed in a pretty, but rather inexpressive countenance, "Oh, I doubt there is one good looking one amongst

*them excepting Annie.” I could hardly restrain my indignation.
And she poor little innocent was not conscious of having said
anything that would not meet with our full and free approbation.*

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

Courtship and Marriage

I.14 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
October 9, 1859.*

In this entry, Susan Mathiot Gale recalled an incident of not being prepared for a visitor. She had planned to spend a quiet morning reading Hood's poems with her daughter and two servants by a tree on her estate. A gentleman visitor, Mr. R., surprised her by visiting, and Susan, who had “plentifully powdered” her face with starch before coming out had to “hastily” wipe her face and pull her hat over it to “hide any traces of starch that might be lurking in the corners of my eyes or nose and awaited his salutations.” She had most likely applied the starch to keep her skin from tanning.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

I.15 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
October 20, 1859.*

When her husband died in 1856, he left young Susan with a sizeable estate and a large fortune. Many of the eligible men in her society courted her and not all of them were desirable. She wrote:

I received another love letter a day or two ago, from a youthful

swain of 75 or thereabout. That is the third original specimen of a love letter I have received lately. This ardent, enthusiastic, young gentleman seems to entertain no doubt whatever, of having made a serious impression, and only desires to solicit my “parents” consent to our felicitous union... And, Oh dear! What woman is there, be she handsome or ugly, rich or poor, who would not jump for joy at the thought of leaving that most forlorn of all situations, single-blessedness, to enter that most delightful of all the United States - the state of Matrimony, with any man, decrepit or youthful, charming or disagreeable? Joking aside, there was a time, when I respected that man beyond all other of his age. I've known him from my babyhood. His first wife, an estimable lady, has many a time threatened to punish me for various misdemeanors, when I was 8 or 9 years old, and he always treated me (when he took any notice of me at all) with all the considerateness and affection of a grandfather.

It should be noted that Susan Mathiot Gale's deceased husband, George Gale, was thirty-two years her senior. The nature of their courtship is unknown.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

I.16 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
August 10, 1859.*

In addition to the seventy-five year old widower, Susan Mathiot Gale had many other suitors. Some she liked more than others, although none of the men she mentioned in her 1859 diary became her second husband. In 1860, she married the Reverend Frederick Anspach, who was closer to her in age than her first husband had been. How they met is unknown, although it is possible that they met through connections with the German Reformed Lutheran Church in Baltimore.

Oh, that I had more confidence in myself. I scarcely ever out myself for fear of exciting ridicule or doing something wrong. I wonder if Mr. T got my letter and what he thinks of it. I have

never yet come across a man who could move my heart as Mr. T has done when he is singing and only then, yet I would not marry him for all the world. He does not possess those qualities which would ensure my lasting respect. I fear my love would not last over the honeymoon, and yet there is something very fascinating about him. I must keep out of his society as much as possible before my heart becomes too much interested, for it would be a very deplorable thing if I were to fall in love with him, since he neither wants me, nor I him.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

I.17 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
August 13, 1859.*

I am afraid Mr. R.'s affection is rather premature. Men do not fall in love with ordinary women so suddenly. Ah, if some men could only see themselves as I see them; but these "lords of creation" trust to the natural vanity of the weaker sex to shield their motives. For instance, I mean to say, this man's opinion of the female sex, is, that there is no woman who treads this earth's face, be she ordinary or extraordinary, who would be induced to think that any man could address her, saving for herself alone. Such is man's opinion of female sanity! Poor deluded creatures! Could they but be made conscious (but, alas! For man inherent vanity, impossible) that a truly sensible woman's penetrating eyes scans their motives at their first glance (figuratively speaking) and feels only for them that contempt which hypocrisy always inspires, how their proud feathers would trail upon the ground and their lofty head be humbled in the dust.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

I.18 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
August 14, 1859.*

I do declare I'm in a strait...Men think themselves so wise! Mr. R. thinks he has read me entirely, but I know that I have read him through and through without the least trouble. I declare it makes me very angry for any men to insinuate either by word or manner that he thinks me all innocence and simplicity. It all does very well if I were sixteen, but a woman of my age ought to be allowed to possess some little worldly wisdom. Everybody knows, that to be excused of a want of worldly wisdom on some impartial point is an implied disgrace. But I forgive Mr. R. on account of his having lived in the country all his life. Poor fellow, he expressed some desire to see into my journal, thinking, I suppose, that he would find something here highly favorably to himself, or some gentle confession of love, that could not be breathed to mortal ears, in which he figured conspicuously. If he could but see it! I could not help smiling in my sleeve, last evening, as I thought of all I had written. Mr. R does not love me. I do not mind that so much. I do not wish nor expect to inspire love; but it is his air of easy assurance which provokes me. He acts as though he thought me a very easy game to bag.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

I.19 *Telegram from Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Ottenheimer & Family to Mr. and Mrs. Theodore R. McKeldin, Baltimore, August 7, 1935.*

Theodore R. McKeldin and his wife Honolulu Claire Manzer honeymooned in Europe.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

I.20 *Invitation to wedding of Clara Whitney McKeldin and Peter Norman Ziegler, Baltimore, Maryland, 1963.*

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

I.21 *Love letters written by Mary Eliza Bradbury to Lewis H. Jackson, Elkton, 1855.*

Although much of the tone of the letters written by Mary Eliza Bradbury is religious or practical in nature, she was not above writing about her emotions towards her future husband, Lewis H. Jackson.

I would not wed a prince if I did not love him, nor would I raise my fist one inch from the earth to place it on a level with those who do not consider me their equal.

She signed one letter: *Accept my heart's love, from your affectionate, Mary Eliza.*

From the Papers of Mary Eliza Bradbury.

I.22 *Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, Easton, 1868.*

In 1868, Leonidas Dodson's daughter, Helen, married C. Norris in Easton. Despite a light-hearted note in the newspaper about a donation of cake to the office by the newlyweds, Leonidas was not happy about his daughter's marriage. He called it the "second great trial of my life" and commented:

Under the most favorable circumstances it would have grieved me to yield my only daughter, one whom I had watched and for whom I had toiled and cared from her infancy to any man, but in this case the chief cause of sorrow and positive anguish was, that I was compelled to yield her to a man for whom I can certainly say no less than that I felt he was not the quality of man to whom I could commit the destiny of my child with confidence. An irreligious man, an occasional drinker - a Hotel Keeper - these things tell the story and comments are needless.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

I.23

*Diary Entry for Edith Brooke Green, Sandy Spring,
December 20, 1897.*

Edith Brooke married Dr. William French Green in 1897. The night before her wedding, the avid-journal writer attempted to say goodbye to her diary.

*Good bye dear old diary of about 14 years - I will transfer my
affection to another house, but you will never be forgotten. Dear
Mary has promised to keep you up - Good Bye.*

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

I.24

*Diary Entry by Mary Brooke, Sandy Spring,
December 30, 1897.*

Mary Brooke did keep her promise to continue updating her sister's diary. Before her wedding, Edith Brooke Green made one last entry - "How will it be by this time?" Her sister replied with, "It is all right by this time, Mrs. Green."

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

I.25

*Diary Entry by Edith Brooke Green, Brookeville,
December 21, 1897.*

After her wedding, Edith Brooke Green started a new diary to record her "new life." She predicted that it would be "very very happy."

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

I.26 *Diary Entry by Edith Brooke Green, Brookeville,
August 1898.*

In her new diary, Edith wrote about her daily chores in her new role as wife; they differed little from the farm chores she had performed while living with her parents.

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

Health

I.27 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
April 17, 1859.*

The country air certainly does me good and Georgie likewise for now she has a colour nearly all of the time. This morning Mrs. P. distressed us all very much by giving us three pet chickens for dinner, in consequence of which two of the family concluded not to return to that meal. This morning as usual we all walked down to the park where we all had a first rate run. I think it very beneficial to the health. Even little Georgie is delighted with the exercise and likes nothing so well.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

I.28 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
September 29, 1859.*

Diaries are an excellent source to learn about common practices, such as use of medications, in a household. Susan Mathiot Gale often did not feel well and wrote about her ills and her methods of curing them in her diary.

A beautiful morning. Don't feel very well though. My dose of medicine I believe, made me a great deal worse instead of better... My eyes feel dreadfully this morning. I shall bind some tea leaves to them tonight. They feel inflamed.

Interestingly enough, Susan Mathiot Gale did not think that what she was writing was of any consequence. She continued:

I am almost through this book. I never thought I should have the patience to write a book full of thoughts. If any one, who by mischance gets hold of this book, thinks he has made a lucky dive into the private and most particular chest of my private and most particular sentiment, all I have to say is "Don't you believe it, my deary" in the language of an old song.

On the contrary, her diary offers a valuable glimpse into Anne Arundel County life just prior to the Civil War.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

Death

I.29 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
August 29, 1859.*

Susan Mathiot Gale made only two mentions of her deceased husband in her diary. The first time, her visiting cousin, Laura Mathiot, claims to have seen George Gale's ghost standing by the bed.

She told me that after she had closed her eyes... she opened them again and beheld several men and one woman in the room....One in particular was leaning over the foot of my bed looking at Georgie and myself. She gave accurately the features and dress of Mr. G. although she had never seen or heard him described in her

life. She said he had no beard but he full looked as if it had not been shaved for several days. Annie and I got Mr. G.'s likeness and showed it to her. The instant she beheld it she exclaimed, "that is the man!" "Oh, Laura" said I, "haven't we been fooling you by shamming off this likeness for Mr. G's?" Said she, "I don't care whose it is, it is the man I saw last night." Now Laura is no more than a child, but whether she is a deceitful hypocritical little one or not is more than I can say, having known her such a short time. She speaks with an air of truth, but then I think she has a very strong imagination and believing herself a seeing medium might fancy these things. That she never saw Mr. G. or his likeness in all her life I know to be a fact. Nor do I think it possible for her ever to have heard him described, yet that I could not vouch for. However we are going to try the spirits tonight.

Their attempt at trying the spirits was postponed. Interestingly enough, Gale's second husband, Frederick Anspach, wrote a treatise about "Spirits and Spirit-Rapping."

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

I.30 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
August 29, 1859.*

The second time Susan Mathiot Gale mentioned her deceased husband in her diary it was with longing.

I do wonder now whether she [a neighbor] will come. I liked her and Mrs. H. better than any one on West River when I was married; but things are changed now, he who was my support in those days, for whose sake these people noticed me, is gone. I have to stand alone.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

I.31 *Condolence letter from Mamie Eisenhower to Honolulu
McKeldin, August 12, 1974.*

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

I.32 *Theodore R. McKeldin's Appointment Book, Baltimore,
August 10, 1974.*

Mildred Momberger was Theodore R. McKeldin's secretary throughout most of his career. She kept his appointment books for him, and they provide a detailed account of McKeldin's whereabouts every day from 1943 until his death in 1974. Momberger even entered in his death on August 10, 1974. Several days later, she made note of his funeral as well.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

I.33 *Diary Entries by Edith Brooke Green, Brookeville, August,
November, 1910.*

Meredith Green, Edith Brooke's first child and only son, died in 1910, at the age of nine from an illness. She described his last day, August 26, 1901, and his moment of death in her diary; it is possible to tell from the handwriting how distraught she was at the time.

10:20 after hard irregular breathing he left us, our bright darling boy... How can I do without him - gone forever - Dear Dr. Green broken down - all went to bed and left him alone.

The next day, August 27, Edith discussed making funeral arrangements.

Woke at 3 and went in to be with Dr. Green - we talked and tried to make the final arrangements. So hard to wake and know Meredith is not with me - my darling boy.

The pain had not lessened three months later. In November, 1910, Edith wrote:

Three months ago today darling precious little Meredith was taken away. I have lived over this day and all its anguish. How I long to see and have my little boy again. It is too hard indeed.

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

I.34 *Letter from Mary Eliza Bradbury to Lewis H. Jackson, Elkton, March 20, 1855.*

Sometimes, death of an acquaintance could be treated as an afterthought. In this letter to her fiancé, Mary Eliza Bradbury saved mention of the death of Dr. Jones' wife until she had no room on her paper and found space between the lines.

From the Papers of Mary Eliza Bradbury.

I.35 *Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, Easton, April 1871.*

Leonidas Dodson's youngest son, Joseph ("Josie"), whom he described as "my Benjamin," died tragically on March 31, 1871.

...and had just opened my day's work when Willie came in weeping, and said, "Oh Pa, Josie is shot." Hastily asking him where, and receiving in reply at the school room, and buoyed with the hope that it was merely a flesh wound, I started for the fatal scene.

The *Easton Gazette* called the event a "most shocking accident."

A year before, the State had furnished students at the high school with small muskets by the State for the purpose of organizing the higher department into a military school. One of the older boys was playing with the gun when it accidentally went off and hit Josie, aged 13, in the leg. Josie suffered until eleven o'clock that evening when he "gently ebbed out."

The obituary described Josie as a "general favorite with all his school associates" and said that he had a "gentle and affable disposition."

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

I.36 *Journal Entries by Leonidas Dodson, Easton, May, July, 1854.*

A measles outbreak in 1859 claimed not only a beloved slave who worked for Leonidas Dodson's family, but his daughter as well.

Our precious child is this morning evidently near the last of her mortal span. Bitter is the cup, but I feel my heart more resigned, my feelings more subdued as I am brought nearer and nearer towards the certain issue of her disease.

Ethelinda Dodson died on July 21, 1854. She was three years old and had been ill for two months. She was the second of Leonidas Dodson's children to die in infancy. A son, Robert, lived only to be one year old; one daughter was stillborn, and another only lived to be a few months old. In all, Leonidas Dodson outlived seven of his eleven children.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

I.37

*Journal Entry by Salina Virginia ("Jennie") Dodson,
November 1889.*

When Leonidas Dodson died on November 20, 1889, his wife made her own entry at the end of his journal.

*And now I return to life again, and taking up its tangled threads
will try to accept my lot without murmuring endeavor to wave
them into fashion for the master's approval. And while thou who
hast helped me on in life's joys and sorrows art resting so sweetly,
I will try to fill thy place in a measure by the Holy Spirit's help, till
He who watches over all shall say "it is enough, come up higher."*

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

II. Politics and War

*Warning sirens, shattered houses,
Hunger, acrid smoke, and wet
-- Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods,
"Wartime Children," 1942*

Through the political process, citizens and elected officials create laws and regulations that govern nations and activities. From setting the driving age to enforcing the number of school days to outlawing murder, laws impact all of us in a very personal way. As such, people have been historically interested in national and local politics,

even before the days of television and radio.

Some of the people in this exhibit chose to be actively involved in politics - Theodore R. McKeldin dedicated his life to serve in political offices, and John H. Alexander held a political appointment as Chief Engineer of Maryland. At one point, he also discussed running for treasurer of the state of Maryland. Leonidas Dodson avidly recorded political news in his journal; he also contemplated running for a Maryland state office, but changed his mind due to his wife's failing health.

In the United States, the declaration of war is a political action made by the President and Congress. Throughout the lives of the people in this exhibit, the United States was involved in many major wars (the Civil War, World War I, and World War II) and several smaller uprisings. When Theodore Bissell entered the Maryland Agricultural College in 1916, World War I was raging in Europe. Although Bissell did not go overseas, his classmate, Milton E. Poole, did, thus ending his formal education. Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods lived through both World Wars, and what she witnessed in the news inspired several poems on the subject.

III.1

*Photographs of Milton E. Poole, College Park, Maryland,
ca. 1917.*

From the Papers of Theodore L. Bissell.

III.2

*Correspondence from Milton E. Poole to Theodore L.
Bissell, France, 1918-1919.*

Theodore Bissell and Milton Ellsworth Poole started school together at the Maryland State College of Agriculture in 1916. The following year, the United States entered World War I. Milton, who was from Mt. Airy, Maryland, enlisted and fought overseas. Bissell remained behind, although he was a member of the Student Army Training Corps. In 1919, "Poolie" was still in France and wrote to his friend Ted on life in the military:

Our battalion, the third of the 58th CAC, composed of batteries E & F, was mentioned in orders for good work.

Poole also wrote about day to day life as a soldier, commenting on the hardships and noting with appreciation the work of the Y.M.C.A., who brought the troops entertainment and movies.

From the Papers of Theodore L. Bissell.

III.3

Three letters from John H. Alexander to his brother Thomas and Robert ?, Esq., November 9, 1843, November 15, 1843, and December 30, 1843, Baltimore, Maryland.

Until 1843, the state of Maryland had two treasurers: the Treasurer of the Eastern Shore and the Treasurer of the Western Shore. The office of the Treasurer of the Eastern Shore was abolished in 1843 and its duties were assumed by the Treasurer of the Western

Shore. In these letters John H. Alexander addressed a possibility of running for the office of Treasurer of the Western Shore himself:

An enquiry... about Mr. Mackubin's views touching the treasurership. People are beginning to talk about the latter and I have heard my own name coupled with it. I should like to know 1) how I should stand in the matter and 2) if upon consideration we conclude to do anything toward it, there is not much time to lose.

Mackubin was Treasurer of the Western Shore from 1826 to 1843. By December, 1843, Alexander had changed his mind and wrote to Robert ?, Esq.:

I should be pained at having my name mentioned again in connection with the Treasurership, except for defining, as I have done here for myself and others, my real position.

James S. Owens became Treasurer for the interim period 1843 to 1844. Dennis Claude, who Alexander spoke of favorably in his letters, followed Owens and remained in the position until 1852, and then again from 1854 to 1860.

From the Papers of John H. Alexander.

III.4 *Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, Easton, October 16, 1862.*

The draft in Maryland under the call of the President for 300,000 militia, came off yesterday...as it is possible that this is the last draft in Maryland for this war, as I devoutly hope it will be for all time to come....

Dodson continued by explaining how the draft operated.

This consists in taking the names of all citizens in the county liable to military duty between the ages of 18 to 45 years.

Interestingly enough, the enrolling officer for Easton was named “George Gale,” although the relation to Susan Mathiot Gale of West River is unknown.

The 1862 draft in Easton was without disturbance, unlike the riots that occurred as a result of the draft in New York in 1863.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

III.5 *Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, St. Michaels,
October 1, 1853 .*

Leonidas Dodson was active in the political affairs of his town. In 1853, while he was still living in St. Michaels, he was encouraged to run for office in the state legislature, but found that there were “certain inseparable objections.”

At the time, the health of his first wife was a main concern. Having to spend several months of the year across the bay in Annapolis was another. Some perks to the job would be the salary of “\$150 per annum.” In the end, he decided that “a defeat would sit heavily so that perhaps I had better be as I am.”

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

III.6 *Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, St. Michaels,
July 1852.*

On June 29, 1852, Henry Clay, who had been a member of the U. S. House of Representatives, secretary of state under John Quincy Adams, and who had unsuccessfully run for the presidency himself several times, died.

Dodson marked the day in his journal, noting:

Information was received this morning that ... Henry Clay is dead. His long and brilliant career closed Tuesday morning....The announcement of his death has caused a universal burst of sympathy never perhaps witnessed since the death of Washington.

Notice that the news took several days to reach the town of St. Michaels, Maryland.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

III.7 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River, September 26, 1859.*

Politics did not much interest Susan Mathiot Gale. She rarely spoke of them in her diary, except to note:

Mr. M and Gus discussed politics the whole evening and Mr. R. and I had a cosy conversation to ourselves...

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

III.8 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, Baltimore(?), July 18, 1868.*

In 1868, nine years after she had kept her 1859 diary, Susan Mathiot Gale made one final entry. She noted that:

Nine long years have passed away since my hand penned the above pages...nine years of some joy but a great deal of bitter sorrow and experience have passed and again I am a widow.

The world had changed a great deal within those nine years, including the American Civil War and the assassination of President Lincoln.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

III.9

"Our Service Flag," by Bertha Gerneaux Woods, Verses by Three Generations, College Park, Maryland: University of Maryland Press, 1921.

"Wartime Children," by Bertha Gerneaux Woods, World Communion: and Other Verse, North Montpelier, Vermont: Driftwood Press, 1943.

World events often influenced the poetry of Bertha Gerneaux Woods. These two patriotic poems were written about World War I and World War II, respectively.

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

III.10

Presidential Inaugural Invitation for Inauguration of Dwight D. Eisenhower, Washington, D. C., 1953.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

III.11

Letter from Alice Roosevelt Longworth to Theodore R. McKeldin, Washington, D. C., May 18, 1952.

In 1952, Alice Roosevelt Longworth appealed to Theodore R. McKeldin to support Senator Taft's nomination for president.

I have a profound conviction that, if my brother Ted were alive, he would have already asked you to use your great influence in support of the candidacy of Senator Taft.

McKeldin supported Dwight D. Eisenhower at the 1952 Republican Convention in Chicago in July 1952.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

II.12

Letter from Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. to Theodore R. McKeldin, Washington, D. C., November 20, 1970.

Letter from J. Edgar Hoover to Theodore R. McKeldin, Washington, D. C., April 12, 1956.

Letter from Eleanor Roosevelt to Theodore R. McKeldin, New York, December 6, 1954.

Letter from Winston S. Churchill to Theodore R. McKeldin, London, December 13, 1952.

As governor of Maryland, Theodore R. McKeldin often entertained guests and corresponded with other influential politicians.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

III. Living Together

I cannot feel that the fortuitous circumstances of birth or social conditions changes the relation we sustain towards, or the sympathy we should feel for our entire race.-- Leonidas Dodson, 1854

Slavery was an integral part of life in nineteenth-century Maryland, especially in the agriculture-rich regions of Southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore. Two of the most famous Marylanders who escaped from slavery were Harriet

Ross Tubman and Frederick Douglass, from Dorchester and Talbot Counties, respectively. None of the individuals highlighted in this exhibit lived in isolation; all were impacted by and influenced those around them, including family, friends, and business associates. Many times these interactions were pleasant, as in the example of the Brooke family. However, tensions did arise, particularly in the context of race relations as evidenced in the writings of the Leonidas Dodson, Susan Mathiot Gale, Mary Eliza Bradbury, and John H. Alexander.

All of these people tried in some way to make sense of the variety and diversity of the world around them. Apparent in all of their accounts is the fact that they tried to understand one another and to express concern at the way that their society was structured.

III.1 *Diary Entry by Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods, College Park, December 18, 1940.*

By 1940, Bertha Woods was in her late sixties. She kept a journal during 1940 and 1941, although it is not filled with day-to-day news. Instead, she used the diary to record her prayers for the day. Her entries still reveal a little about her everyday life.

[Thankfulness] For such satisfactory maid-service and sweet personal quality of it. Thankfulness for happy, tranquil life, and perfect happiness of my marriage.

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

III.2

"Be Glad," by Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods, Young People's Weekly, October 7, 1900.

Bertha Woods wrote this brief column and used a poor African American child whose "eyes were always shining as if some new, great pleasure had come to him," to illustrate the point that it is important to live life to the fullest.

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

III.3

"Maryland and Freedom," by Theodore R. McKeldin, Washington, D. C., 1951.

In 1951, Governor Theodore R. McKeldin spoke in a Voice of America broadcast about the meaning of freedom. He outlined what he considered "American principles of freedom," including the freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the freedom to travel.

Recently, I traveled halfway across the United States... I rode by train over several State borders. I carried no passports. My name was not even stamped on my railroad tickets. No one asked me to identify myself. No one had the right to. This is America.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

III.4

Letter from F. William Stahl to Theodore R. McKeldin, Severna Park, November 23, 1970.

When Theodore R. McKeldin turned 70 in 1970, his birthday was celebrated by friends and colleagues across the state. F. William Stahl sent McKeldin a newspaper clipping, "McKeldin at 70: 'What Did He Do?'" by M. Hirsh Goldberg that outlined

McKeldin's long career. The article heralds McKeldin for "knocking down a racial barrier." Goldberg noted:

First class citizenship, to him, has been more than a phrase. The McKeldin accomplishments for social justice are a records of awareness and commitment: first Negro appointed to Baltimore's school board, the city solicitor's office and the Mayor's staff; first Jew appointed to the Court of Appeals; elimination fo racial designations on state employment applications; admission of Negroes to the Poly A Course - two years before the Supreme Court's anti-segregation ruling; integration of state-owned beaches and parks; elimination of ban by Baltimore Transit Company on employment of Negro bus and trolley operators; integration of Baltimore hotels; creation and signing of first comprehensive public accommodations law in Baltimore.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

III.5 *Photograph of Theodore R. McKeldin celebrating St. Andrew's Day, Baltimore, ca. 1951.*

Proud of his Scottish heritage, Theodore McKeldin celebrated with fellow members of the St. Andrew's Society of Baltimore.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

III.6 *Narrative of Caroline Hammond, ex-slave (a fugitive), Baltimore, January 11, 1938.*

During the 1930s, the Maryland Federal Writers' Project worked to collect Maryland history, including several slave narratives by people, then elderly, who could remember living in slavery. Their accounts contain tales of hardship, torture, unsuccessful and successful escapes, and poor living conditions. Caroline Hammond, a former slave born in Anne Arundel County in 1844, was owned by a man who was very good to his slaves, but his wife

“was the daughter of one of the Revells of the county, a family whose reputation was known all over Maryland for their brutality with their slaves.” Hammond’s family eventually escaped to Pennsylvania.

From the Archives of the Maryland Work Projects Administration (WPA).

III.7 *Narrative of Jim Taylor, (Uncle Jim), Baltimore,
December 6, 1937.*

Jim Taylor was born in Talbot County, not far from St. Michaels, and was a contemporary of Leonidas Dodson. When he was a small boy, he was with a group of slaves who decided to make an escape to Pennsylvania during a working voyage to Havre de Grace. They followed a stream that Harriet Tubman made known to them. The man who had been in charge of the slaves in Havre de Grace came to Pennsylvania to claim them, but they received assistance from some men in Chester, Pennsylvania and escaped to Philadelphia, where Jim lived until he was 19. He eventually returned to Maryland, first to Talbot County and later to Baltimore.

From the Archives of the Maryland Work Projects Administration (WPA).

III.8 *Narrative of Richard Macks, Ex-Slave, Baltimore,
September 7, 1937.*

In his interview, former slave Richard Macks talked about attending the white church in Charles County. Susan Mathiot Gale described a similar scene - the baptism of two colored children in her church - in her diary.

From the Archives of the Maryland Work Projects Administration (WPA).

III.9

"Camp Pine Knot" Log Book, Mary B. Brooke, Falling Green, Sandy Spring, 1900.

Over the summers, members of the Brooke family created their own outdoors adventure by inviting friends and relatives to enjoy a week at "Camp Pine Knot" at their home, Falling Green. Mary B. Brooke, Edith Brooke's sister, kept a journal of those times. It was a time for people to bond and have fun. Camp Pine Knot even had its own special cheer:

*Rah! Rah! Rah!
Hippy hippy hot
We are the ??? of
Camp Pine Knot.*

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

III.10

Photograph of friend of the Brooke family holding a dog, Sandy Spring, undated.

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

III.11

Letter from Mary Eliza Bradbury to Lewis H. Jackson, Elkton, October 16, 1855.

Mary Eliza Bradbury taught school in Elkton, Maryland. Her workday did not end on Friday. On Sundays, she taught the African-American children in the area.

I am trying to do some good, and you must not scold me if I tell you I am teaching the colored children of this town Sabbath afternoons. I cannot discharge the duty I owe to my fellow beings unless I bear this cross, and I feel that I shall have to render an

account if I fail to teach the word of God to so many colored children as reside in our town.

From the Papers of Mary Eliza Bradbury.

III.12 *Diary Entries by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River, September 28, 1859 and October 5, 1859.*

Susan Mathiot Gale was very attached to one slave on her estate, Lis. She sent Lis to Baltimore to work for her parents for a while, but in late September, 1859, she begins to fear that Lis has taken the opportunity to escape.

I think it is very strange that Lis does not come down, I hope she has not seised [sic] this opportunity to vanish. She might do it with a great deal of ease. For those in Baltimore would think she was here and I would think she hadn't come yet. Let her go! I do not believe in slavery, it is an evil entailed on me, and from which I see no escape. It goes against my conscience to hold unwilling slaves. They generally are contented with their lot because they know no better and are satisfied to have some one to take care of them and their children, but those who thirst for freedom, with the consciousness that it is forever out of their reach by fair means, must be miserable indeed.

A week later, Susan's brother, Gus, went to Baltimore to see what had happened to Lis. On October 8, Gus returned with the news.

Gus came home, and Col. G. with him. He told me that Lis was indeed off and he is fearful that we will not recover her again. If I ever get her again I shall sell her.

Where Lis went, and what happened to her, is unknown.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

III.13

*Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, Easton, June 23,
1854.*

Leonidas Dodson's mother's cousin, Thomas Auld, once owned Frederick Douglass, and Douglass does not remember Auld kindly in his autobiography. Although Leonidas Dodson did not own slaves, he often hired them from others in his town. One young slave girl, Emily, who was fond of his young daughter Ethelinda, died due to complications following the measles in 1854. Dodson's daughter, Ethelinda Thompson, died soon after, on July 21, 1854 at the age of two.

Our poor little Emily is no more! She died yesterday Thursday afternoon the 22nd at 5 o'clock after a period of great suffering caused alas by an act of imprudence [measles].

Perhaps hundreds would ridicule my tears and regrets over this little obscure slave. I care not, let others deal as they may. I cannot feel that the fortuitous circumstances of birth or social conditions changes the relation we sustain towards, or the sympathy we should feel for our entire race. To me Emily was near, a member of my family, this family! The home of the heart. She was the companion of my little children. Her dying wish was to see "her pet Ethe." She was a slave and without any protector or friend except a legal one, beyond my own family circle, and this is why she was near to me. She was a human being, born of common parentage with the race, under the curse of sin and death, redeemed with the precious blood of Jesus Christ, and therefore is she now before the throne, sin, sorrow and pain done with forever, and an eternity of joy begun.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

III.14

*Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, Easton, August 10,
1870.*

Fourteen years after “Bloody Kansas,” Dodson continued to consider the issue of race in America very seriously. In 1870, he recorded his reactions to the adoption of the fifteenth amendment of the Constitution (which gave the right to vote to anyone, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude).

Our town is in commotion today in consequence of the celebration by the coloured people of the adoption of the fifteenth amendment of the Constitution... This day so promising of pleasure to the colored population must be recorded as one of unusual discomfort to myself. I felt nervous and apprehensive that some unwanted circumstance might excite the latent hostility of those so deeply averse to the political privileges of the blacks and strife and perhaps bloodshed be the result.

His concerns show that Dodson understood that not everyone on the Eastern Shore would be as receptive as he was to the new constitutional amendment.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

III.15 *Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, Easton, January 5, 1863.*

Leonidas Dodson spoke freely in his journal about politics of the day and about what he considered the only way to end slavery.

The President of the United States as was expected has issued his Emancipation Proclamation, declaring the slaves in the states totally [unknown word] free.

Slavery exists by virtue of State action, and it is matter of doubt whether the President can declare the end of slavery in such states [southern states], in advance of the progress of the Government arms into such states.

There seems to be as much good sense in the issue of this proclamation, as if the President had proclaimed that all the

horses in the rebel domains should run into the gulf. The only vitality his edicts can have is by the march of his armies and if they march through the south, there will of necessity no need of any [unknown word] proclamations to free the slaves. Invasion and occupation ends slavery.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

III.16 *Essay on Slavery by John H. Alexander, ca. 1857.*

John Henry Alexander was a well-loved and respected man by his peers. He did much to further the understanding of Maryland's geography, and spent a considerable amount of time trying to understand the language of the Delaware Indians. He was well read - his library was "remarkable both for the number and value of its volumes." In 1857, Alexander wrote a manuscript that was never published - an essay containing his views on slavery. The essay, which contained seventeen pages of discussion, was essentially pro-slavery. He wrote:

Were all the Northern States actuated by noble & unselfish motives only when they abolished Slavery? We fear not.

From the Papers of John H. Alexander.

IV. Work

In every waking dream of man there is conception of a project - be it great or small. -- Theodore R. McKeldin.

Most people must work and earn money in order to survive. In today's world, people may choose a career from a seemingly endless array of choices. A common question when introduced to a stranger is "What do you do?" In response, people most often describe the career that pays the bills, as opposed to their hobbies or other interests. In the past, career choices were limited and localized. All of the people represented in this exhibit were well educated, and all of them worked. Work played a large part in all of their lives, although most of them did not comment or write about it in their diaries or correspondence. Most of what we know of their work lives must be understood from the products of their work - passing mentions in journals, speeches, publications, and photographs.

Education was a common field for both men and women and many of the people in this exhibit, such as Mary Eliza Bradbury, Leonidas Dodson, and Theodore Bissell earned their keep by teaching. Others worked in the agricultural trade; Edith Brooke Green grew up on a farm and Susan Mathiot Gale managed her husband's estate in West River. Bertha Gerneaux Woods had a successful career as an author and poet. Others, such as John H. Alexander and Theodore McKeldin chose more public careers as politicians and government employees.

None of these jobs was more important than the other. All of them played an integral part in the development and education of the people of the state of Maryland.

IV.1

*"At the Summer's Close," by Bertha Gerneaux Woods,
Young People's Weekly, 1899.*

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

IV.2

"The Oven-Birds" and Other Articles by Bertha Gerneaux Woods, Young People's Weekly, 1901.

Bertha Gerneaux Woods often published short poems and articles for *Young People's Weekly*. In the columns, she provided real-life examples to demonstrate moral lessons. In "Turn and Turn About," she discussed the art of conversation and advises young people on the finer points of polite communication. Bertha Gerneaux Woods kept copies of all of her publications in a scrapbook.

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

IV.3

Diary Entries of Edith Brooke, Sandy Spring, September and October, 1884.

In her diary, fifteen-year-old Edith Brooke discusses her farm chores. In early September, she attended the Maryland State Fair with her father. When at home, the typical day involved a variety of tasks. On October 1st, the family made catsup. On October 2nd, her mother and aunt spent the day looking for chicken grapes. In the meantime, her uncle occupied himself with digging sweet potatoes.

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

IV.4

*Various programs to events where Theodore Bissell spoke,
Maryland, 1949, 1952, 1967.*

As part of his job as an extension agent, Theodore Bissell gave talks to the community about topics relating to entomology. In February 1949, he gave a talk entitled “Insect and Pest Control” to the Baltimore County Council of Homemakers’ Clubs. He spoke at the Talbot Corn & Tomato Growers’ meeting in April 1952, and on January 25, 1967, he told people at the Carroll County Mid-Winter Meeting about “Controlling Insects in the Corn Field.”

From the Papers of Theodore L. Bissell.

IV.5

*Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, St. Michaels,
June 1, 1847.*

Up until this point, Leonidas Dodson had “*omitted regular notes of passing events*” in his journal. In this entry, he remedied the situation by describing his job at the Female Department of the Primary School in St. Michaels. At the end he wrote, “*May I be a successful teacher, and train the hearts and minds of my charges, for usefulness, holiness, and final happiness!*”

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

IV.6

*Report on Certain Documents Touching the Provincial
History of Maryland: Addressed to his Excellency the Governor,
John H. Alexander, Baltimore, December 16, 1859.*

John H. Alexander had many interests, including that of historian. In 1859 he completed a survey of the major historical documents of the state of Maryland and published his findings in a report to the governor. He recommended publishing a “Calendar”

(inventory) of the papers so that they could be more easily accessible - a precursor to today's online catalogs.

From the Marylandia Collection.

IV.7 *Letter to John H. Alexander and Professor Ducatel from Levi Woodbury, Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C., February 23, 1836.*

In 1833, Governor Thomas proposed that the Maryland legislature address the need for better maps. The General Assembly agreed and authorized the governor and council to appoint a state engineer to "examine and collect information and to report to the next General Assembly a plan and drawing for a complete Map of Maryland."

They chose John H. Alexander to be the first Chief Engineer of Maryland - he was then only twenty-one years old. Working together with Ducatel, the state geologist, he published two reports, one in 1834 and one in 1835, but found that he spent more of his time completing surveys requested by powerful local interests of prospective canal and railroad routes. While carrying out his research for this task, Alexander mapped the richest coal deposits in the state. He joined with a friend, P. T. Tyson, Esq., to found the George Creek Iron and Coal Company. By the time Alexander resigned his position in 1837, the company's success had made him financially secure.

From the Papers of John H. Alexander.

IV.8 *Map of the Proposed Rail Road from Frederick Town to the Pennsylvania Line, 1836.*

This is just one of many maps produced by John H. Alexander during his tenure as Chief Engineer of Maryland.

From the Maryland Maps Collection.

IV.9

*Letter from Mary Eliza Bradbury to Lewis H. Jackson,
Elkton, July 29, 1855.*

Mary Eliza Bradbury's teaching job supplemented the livery stable (a stable where vehicles and horses are kept for hire) business owned by her father in Elkton. The profession was not without its troubles. In July, she wrote:

Father is a little low-spirited, for he has lost a horse worth 135 dollars. He let it to a man who promised to return the next day, one day last week, but who has not yet returned. The carriage he found at some public house, and the horse he is told is dead in some marsh, I have forgotten where. I am not surprised, for I do not expect him to be successful unless he closes his livery on the Sabbath.

From the Papers of Mary Eliza Bradbury.

IV.10

Speech by Theodore R. McKeldin. Dedication of the Washington Circumferential Highway [Capitol Beltway], October 25, 1957.

Photograph of the Opening of the Washington Circumferential Highway [Capitol Beltway], October 25, 1957.

Theodore McKeldin was known as an excellent orator. He devoted significant amounts of time into composing his speeches and avidly collected poems and quotations to use in his speechwriting. As mayor and then as governor, he attended events on a daily basis, and his speeches provide a framework for exploring the history of the region.

On the day that the Capitol Beltway opened, he stated:

Its beauty is obvious to all--and it will grow in grandeur as each successive spring season rolls around.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

IV.11 *Photograph of the visit of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, to Maryland, Annapolis, November 8, 1954.*

Letter from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother to Theodore R. McKeldin, London, 1954.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

IV.12 *Letter from Harry S. Truman to Theodore R. McKeldin, Washington, D. C., 1951.*

Theodore McKeldin was a collector of history and delighted in saving pieces of correspondence from notable figures with whom he interacted. It is obvious from the personal nature of the letters that these people regarded McKeldin with respect. In 1951, Harry S. Truman wrote a letter in which he noted the need for an auxiliary airport to service Washington, D. C., "in addition to *Friendship Airport*" [currently BWI Airport]. Washington National Airport [currently Reagan National] already serviced the Washington, D. C., area. To meet the growing demand for airport capacity, Congress passed the second Washington Airport Act of 1950 (and amended it further in 1958) to provide for "... the construction, protection, operation, and maintenance of a public airport in or in the vicinity of the District of Columbia." Construction on Dulles International Airport began in September 1958.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

IV.13

*Photograph of Theodore R. McKeldin at a social function,
Baltimore, 1954.*

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

IV.14

*Advertisement for Mathiot's Chair Warerooms, Baltimore
Wholesale Business Directory and Business Circular for the Year
1853, Baltimore, 1853.*

*Advertisement for Griffith & Brother, Baltimore Wholesale
Business Directory and Business Circular for the Year 1852,
Baltimore, 1852.*

Augustus Mathiot, Susan Mathiot Gale's father, was born in Baltimore on August 4, 1799. He was an original founder of American Odd Fellowship (Independent Order of Odd Fellows), which was initiated in 1823. By trade, Augustus manufactured chairs and cabinet-ware.

He was well known enough in Baltimore that advertisers used his shop as a location marker. In the 1852 Baltimore Wholesale Business Directory and Business Circular, Griffith & Brother advertises that they are “*next to Mathiot's chair factory.*”

Images from the *Archives of Maryland*, Maryland State Archives Web site.

V. Education

*May I be a successful teacher, and train the hearts
and minds of my charges, for usefulness, holiness,
and final happiness! -- Leonidas Dodson, 1847*

Prior to 1865, Maryland had no cohesive centralized public education system. Children either attended academies, such as the St. Michaels Primary School, or they attended religious or smaller local schools, such as the one where Mary Eliza Bradbury taught in Elkton, Maryland, in 1855. Many children were tutored at home. Very poor children, whose parents could not afford tuition, often studied at public schools financed through a combination of public and private funding.

Maryland is home to many fine and established institutions of higher education. One of the oldest colleges in the country, St. John's College in Annapolis, was founded in 1696 as King William's School, and later chartered in 1784 as St. John's College. John H. Alexander studied there, graduating in 1827 when he was only fifteen. The Maryland Agricultural College, now the University of Maryland, began accepting its first students in 1859; the medical campus of the University of Maryland in Baltimore was founded in 1807.

As Edith Brooke Green wrote for a school examination in 1887, the object of education is to “*instruct and teach us, to enlarge and strengthen the mind and to fit us for the duties of life.*”

V.1 *The Campus at Homecoming '49, Maryland (Alumni Magazine) College Park, 1949.*

One of Theodore Bissell's passions besides entomology was the history of the University of Maryland. He collected materials that he considered to document the history of the campus. Bissell annotated this aerial photo from 1949. Note that today's University Parkway is known as “University Lane.”

From the Papers of Theodore L. Bissell.

V.2 *Photographs of Queen Elizabeth II and Theodore McKeldin at the “Queen’s Game,” College Park, 1957.*

Theodore McKeldin met Queen Elizabeth II when she and her husband, Prince Philip, journeyed to Byrd Stadium on the University of Maryland campus to see a “typical American sport” during a U. S. visit. They watched the Terrapins defeat the University of North Carolina Tar Heels 21 to 7 in a major upset touted by Maryland football coach Tommy Mont as “the most wonderful victory of my career.” Seated next to Queen Elizabeth was University of Maryland president Wilson Elkins.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

V.3

Course Time-Table of Reginald Arthur, Maryland State College, College Park, 1916.

Theodore Bissell collected this time-table as part of his University of Maryland history research. His own time-table would have looked very similar.

From the Papers of Theodore L. Bissell.

V.4

Biographical Entry about Albert Woods, Reveille, 1916, Maryland State College, College Park, Maryland.

Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods' husband, Dr. Albert F. Woods, became president of the Maryland State College in 1917. He came just as the United States entered World War I and, as a result, became the commandant of a military camp. The U. S. government established the Reserve Officer Training Corps and the Student Army Training Corps in the land grant colleges with the faculty and administration temporarily under Army command. He resigned as president in 1926, but remained with the school's agriculture department until 1948.

From the University Publications Collection.

V.5

"The Co-Eds," Maryland State College, Reveille, College Park, 1919.

Female students did not come to the Maryland Agricultural College until 1916. By 1919, there were ten women enrolled in the college. They lived in Gerneaux Hall.

From the University Publications Collection.

V.6

Photograph of Gerneaux Hall, Reveille, Maryland State College, College Park, 1925.

This building, originally known as “Cabs House,” was the dormitory at the Maryland Agricultural College. The building later served as a girls’ dormitory and was named “Gerneaux” hall, after Bertha Gerneaux Woods, wife of university president Albert F. Woods. In later years, it served as the home of the head football coach, Ted Nugent. On April 4, 1965, a senior level class in the fire fighting protection curriculum burned down the house intentionally as part of a drill. The campus planned to build an extension to H. J. Patterson Hall on that location. At the time, the building, which dated to 1859, was the second oldest on campus.

From the University Publications Collection.

V.7

Senior entry for Theodore L. Bissell, Reveille, Maryland State College, College Park, 1920.

From the University Publications Collection.

V.8

Class of 1920, Maryland State College, Freshman Photograph, Reveille, College Park, 1917.

This photograph shows the class of 1920 at the Maryland State College in their first year of study in 1917. The following year the Maryland State College established a Reserve Officer’s Training School. Upon graduation, students in this program would become a reserve officer in the War Department and as such, be subject to be called into the service of the United States in times of war. Theodore Bissell and his friend Milton Poole are both in the photograph; Poole left school the following year to fight overseas.

From the University Publications Collection.

V.9

*Letter from Milton Ellsworth Poole to Theodore Bissell,
Bordeaux, France, February 28, 1919.*

By February 1919, Theodore Bissell's classmate, Milton Poole, who had been fighting in France during World War I, had given up any thought of returning to school. He wrote:

I have lost nearly everything but my self-respect and a great love for my country. One thing that I have lost is my chances for an education. I have of course lost my scholarships, both industrial and the one from the county. If I should go back to school anywhere it would be at M.S.C. but I don't think I can make it. I love the school and I'd give five years of my life to come back but - - it can't be done.

Milton never did return to college. He lived in Bladensburg, Maryland, and worked in the Railway Mail Service in Washington, D. C. He died in the 1950s.

From the Papers of Theodore L. Bissell.

V.10

*Letter from William Alexander to his brother
John H. Alexander, Annapolis, November 9, 1846.*

In October 1846, Rev. Edwin M. Van Deusen, rector of St. Anne's Parish, distributed an announcement about the formation of the St. Anne's Female School. William Alexander wrote to his brother:

The ladies who are to take charge of the female school here have come on but I think things wear at present a gloomy appearance.

The "ladies" were Mrs. Emily Converse and Miss Marie Miller. The school was to be held at the Hammond-Harwood House in Annapolis with annual tuition and board costing \$200. William's

prediction proved to be correct: there is no evidence that the school prospered.

From the Papers of John H. Alexander.

V.11 *List of publications of John H. Alexander, from Biographical memoir of John Henry Alexander, LL.D., by J. G. Proud. Read on commencement day, St. John's College, Annapolis, July 29, 1868.*

John H. Alexander did not stop learning after he left St. John's College in 1827. This list shows his varied interests throughout his lifetime, including writings on iron, religion, weights and measures, geography, and last names.

From the Marylandia Collection.

V.12 *Report Card and Transcript for Theodore R. McKeldin, University of Maryland School of Law, Baltimore, 1924 and 1926.*

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

V.13 *Letter from the Court of Annapolis to Theodore R. McKeldin, Annapolis, March 24, 1926.*

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

V.14

*Letter from Mary Eliza Bradbury to Lewis H. Jackson,
Elkton, October 16, 1855.*

In 1855, Mary Eliza Bradbury was happy with the success of the school that she had started. Competition soon appeared in the form of a similar school, taught by the preacher's daughter. Bradbury, a religious woman, did not appear to be too worried.

My week day school is in a very prosperous condition, but I know not how long it will continue so, as there is a school opened right opposite to me. Our preacher's daughter is the Teacher. I do not intend to give myself any uneasiness about it, for if my way is shut here, it will be opened somewhere else, and the Lord will take care of me.

From the Papers of Mary Eliza Bradbury.

V.15

*Letter from Mary Eliza Bradbury to Lewis H. Jackson,
Elkton, October 30, 1855.*

Two weeks later, on October 30th, 1855, Bradbury did not seem too pleased with the school across the street.

I seat myself to write to you in the school- room, of course in much confusion but I hope to be able to compose my mind so as to write you a long letter. You will be surprised at my being in the school room at noon, but the children are so much troubled by those of other schools, I think it best to be here and watch them, for I am tired of so many complaints. My school continues to be very large, and I feel much interested in instructing them.

From the Papers of Mary Eliza Bradbury.

V.16

Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River, September 30, 1859.

Susan Mathiot Gale took singing lessons several times a week. In addition to singing, the students were asked questions on music theory.

The school was very full. Mr. C. gave me a fright once, I never think of answering any of the questions put to the class; never supposing that I was expected to do so, but Mr. C. put a question to me point blank. I had not been paying the least bit of attention to what he was saying, in fact I was thinking what a beautiful feather Miss McC. had in her hat, so of course I could make no answer to Mr. C. but that gentleman was not to be put off, he was determined to hear the sound of my voice, so he persevered, giving me time to collect my better senses, finding no escape. I answered the question, and as it happens, correctly.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

V.17

Anne Arundel County Public School System Report to the Maryland General Assembly, Annapolis, 1866.

Susan Mathiot Gale's second husband, Frederick R. Anspach, was a Lutheran minister. He was also President of the Board of P. S. C. (Public Schools) of Maryland. In this annual report, he explains some of the problems of the Anne Arundel County schools as they transitioned from the old local system to the new statewide educational system. He wrote: "*I regret to say that many of our School-Houses are in a dilapidated condition--some must be rebuilt and others require extensive repairs.*" On a positive note, however, he explains, "*We have been very fortunate in our selection of teachers.*"

From the Marylandia Collection.

V.18

My First Play at Rockland School, Edith Brooke, Sandy Spring, ca. 1884.

As a teenager, Edith Brooke Green attended the Rockland School. This composition describes how she came to attend Rockland, and how she felt on her first days.

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

V.19

Rockland Examination, Sandy Spring, April 5th, 1887.

In this examination, Edith Brooke answers several important questions on the nature of education. She wrote that the object of education was to “*instruct and teach us, to enlarge and strengthen the mind and to fit us for the duties of life.*”

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

V.20

Roll of the Female Department of the Primary School at St. Michaels, 1851, 1853.

This roll book records the attendance of Dodson’s students, as well as noting things like school closings because of an illness and death of a student, and some students moving to other towns. Dodson also recorded personal information in the roll books, such as the death of his aunt on May 6, 1853.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

V.21

*Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, St. Michaels, June
1847.*

In 1847, Dodson introduced a new set of “rules” to manage his disorderly classroom.

Introduced today a new set of rules, very strict; and have witnessed a very happy effect. I have had to punish some but expect examples to be less frequent after the habit of observance is obtained by the school.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

V.22

*Journal Entry by Leonidas Dodson, St. Michaels, May 3,
1848.*

In this journal entry, Leonidas Dodson mentioned disciplining one of his students for fighting. The boy’s sister explained, “*Father told brother to strike any boy who struck him if he did not he (father) would whip him for it.*” Dodson spoke to the father who explained that he had indeed said such a thing but it was “*not meant to apply during school hours.*”

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

V.23

*Student Essays in Leonidas Dodson’s Journal, St. Michaels,
1848.*

Leonidas Dodson often had students compose essays directly into his journal books. One student accompanied the essay with a drawing. Another student wrote an essay on “Duty Toward Teachers” and explained that the first duty towards teacher was to obey, because “*we will surely feel better than those who are*

constantly trying their teachers with their complaints by laying their faults on others.”

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

VI. World and Travel

...these constant partings almost tear the life out of young hearts. -- Mary Eliza Bradbury, 1855

Today, it is very easy to hop on a plane to California, Europe, or even Asia. This was not always the case. A trip to Europe might last for several months; it took a ship at least a week to cross the Atlantic at the end of the nineteenth century, and people tended to stay for longer periods of time in order to get the most for their money and to recover from the exhausting rigors of traveling. Even going from Elkton, Maryland, to Wilmington, Delaware, a distance of roughly twenty miles, was a trip that required some amount of preparation.

Since travel was so difficult in the past; people were more likely to write letters in order to communicate, and through those letters we can gain an important insight into their lives.

VII.1

*Letter from Milton Ellsworth Poole to Theodore Bissell,
France, January 19, 1919.*

Theodore Bissell's friend and former classmate, Milton Ellsworth Poole, enlisted and fought overseas during World War I.

In 1919, Poole wrote to his friend Ted from France:

*You'd be surprised at the warm weather we have here for January.
It isn't at all cold like the States during this time of year but it
rains all the time almost.*

From the Papers of Theodore L. Bissell.

VII.2

*Letter from Milton Ellsworth Poole to Theodore Bissell,
Bordeaux, France, February 28, 1919.*

In his letters to Theodore Bissell, Milton Poole wrote longingly of home. He asked Bissell to remember him to "all the fellows" and wrote that he expected to sail soon (a transatlantic crossing at that time took approximately five days).

From the Papers of Theodore L. Bissell.

VII.3

*Letter from Mary Eliza Bradbury to Lewis H. Jackson,
Elkton, May 1, 1855.*

In this letter, Mary Eliza Bradbury mentions a mysterious trip to Philadelphia and talks of visiting Wilmington, Delaware.

From the Papers of Mary Eliza Bradbury.

VII.4

*Chicago World's Fair Diary Entries, Mary B. Brooke,
Chicago, Illinois, August 25, 1893 through September 7, 1893.*

Mary B. Brooke, Edith Brooke Green's sister, kept a detailed journal of her visit to the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. She describes an unpleasant night in the sleeper car of the train and her view from her window the next morning. Her first view of the fair was the "*immense Ferris Wheel and then the Administration Building.*"

After the family had settled in to their hotel, they took the Intramural Railway for a general view of the grounds.

"...everything looked so interesting and we felt as if we wanted to see the whole thing immediately." They spent the first day looking at the state pavilions. *"Kansas had the little train of cars running around the top, and the beautiful collection of stuffed animals, so naturally grouped among them... California was a long, low open looking building. Had a large exhibit of fruit; and a pyramid of oranges. Horse and rider made of prunes."*

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

VII.5

*Chicago World's Fair Scrapbook, Edith Brooke, Chicago,
August, 1893.*

Edith Brooke compiled a scrapbook relating to her visit to the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. Her account differs somewhat from her sister Mary's earlier journal entries. Edith focuses on meeting up with friends from Sandy Spring. She did note, however, that they entered the fair with "eyes as big as saucers."

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

VII.6

Notes from the White City, Chicago World's Fair memory book, Sandy Spring, 1894.

On January 1, 1894, the Brooke family hosted a reception for Sandy Spring residents who had visited the World's Fair. The group gathered at the Brooke home, "Falling Green" to reminisce and to record their memories in a notebook.

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

VII.7

Telegram from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother to Theodore R. McKeldin, London, February 7, 1952.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visited Maryland in 1953 and spent a great deal of time with Theodore R. McKeldin. Her daughter, Queen Elizabeth II, also came to Maryland in 1957. Even before these meetings, however, McKeldin was careful to show consideration and care to world leaders. He wrote to the Queen Mother on the occasion of her husband's death and received a grateful telegram in reply.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

VII.8

Postcards from Theodore R. McKeldin to his family, Europe, 1955.

As a politician, Theodore R. McKeldin often traveled for his job. While he was away in places like Germany and England, he sent many postcards home to his wife and children. Sometimes his wife traveled with him, as evidenced by this postcard she sent to her daughter during a layover in London.

From the Papers of Theodore R. McKeldin.

VII. Religion

...In defining religion we must take care that our concept is not a narrow one. -- Theodore R. McKeldin, 1951

In 1632, King Charles I of England granted George Calvert, Lord Baltimore, a tract of land for the province of Maryland. Calvert, who died before the charter was officially completed, wished for a colony that would grant religious freedoms to his fellow Catholics. Calvert's son, Cecilius, inherited the charter, and although he never visited Maryland, he consistently promoted religious toleration for all Christians living in his colony. In 1649, Cecilius passed "An Act concerning Religion." The law protected all peoples of Maryland "professing to believe in Jesus Christ," which encompassed Catholics and Protestants, but not Jews, for example. Even though the Act did not apply to everyone, it helped people of different Christian religions to live and work together peacefully. While there were wars being fought over religion in England, Catholics and Protestants were making laws, trading, and building a colony together in Maryland. The official policy of religious toleration only lasted in Maryland until 1689. Nevertheless, it was a great accomplishment for Lord Baltimore and the colonists of Maryland.

For some of the people in this exhibit, such as Mary Eliza Bradbury, religion was an all-encompassing aspect of life. For others, such as Leonidas Dodson, it was almost a career; Bertha Gerneaux Woods wrote frequently on religious topics. For Susan Mathiot Gale, visiting church was a social occasion and a chance to see others in the community. Regardless the nature of observance, religion played an important part in the lives of the Marylanders in this exhibit.

VIII.1 “*That Christian Endeavor Pledge,*” by Bertha Gerneaux Davis, The Cumberland Presbyterian, February 7, 1895.

Bertha Gerneaux specialized in writing tales dealing with Christianity. She was a member of the “Christian Endeavor,” an organization that trained church people of all ages to express their Christian life, in their church, in their community, and in their world.

In 1895, she wrote an article as if from the journal of a girl named Dorothy, in which Dorothy struggles to understand the enormity of one of the aspects of the Christian Endeavor pledge.

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

VIII.2 *Covers from the Mayflower, July 27, 1924, and The Child's Gem, February 10, 1924.*

The majority of Bertha Woods' poetry and writings were published in Christian and children's publications.

From the Papers of Albert Woods and Bertha Gerneaux Davis Woods.

VII.3

*Exhorter's License granted to Leonidas Dodson, Easton,
February 11, 1876.*

Leonidas Dodson was a Methodist Episcopal Exhorter (lay preacher). Lewis H. Jackson, husband of Mary Eliza Bradbury, was also a Methodist Exhorter before becoming an Episcopal minister in 1861.

From the Papers of Leonidas Dodson.

VII.4

*Photograph of St. Mary's Church, North Elk Parish, from
History of North Elk Parish by Rev. J. Gibson Gantt, 1905.*

Lewis H. Jackson, Mary Eliza Bradbury's husband, was the rector of St. Mary Anne's Parish in Cecil County, Maryland, from 1861 to 1868. The couple and their children would have spent a significant amount of time in this building.

From the Marylandia Collection.

VII.5

*Spiritulism and Spirit-Rapping by Rev. F. R. Anspach, A.
M., Gettysburg, 1855.*

Susan Mathiot Gale's second husband, Frederick R. Anspach, a Lutheran minister, wrote this pamphlet five years before he and Susan were married about the nineteenth century trend of holding séances. Anspach acknowledged that an invisible spiritual world existed, but warned against tampering with it. Whether or not Susan told her husband about her desire to contact her first husband, George Gale, by holding a séance in 1859 is unknown. The séance was never held although Susan's curiosity was sparked

by a report made by her cousin, Laura Mathiot, during a visit in August 1859.

From the New York Public Library.

VIII.6 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
August 21, 1859.*

Susan Mathiot Gale most likely regularly attended the St. James' Parish Episcopal Church in Owensville, Maryland.

I went to church yesterday afternoon. Mr. D. was as prosy as usual. I do declare I think somebody ought to speak to Mr. D. about preaching such long sermons, everybody is entirely worn out before it is half through. The service lasts an hour and so does the sermon. I think two hours is entirely too long to sit moped up in church these warm days.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

VIII.7 *Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River,
September 26, 1859.*

Susan Mathiot Gale took singing lessons and sang in her church choir.

Mrs. H-d and Mrs. H-l who are leaders had gone away, and invited in their place a certain young lady whom they considered fully competent to supply it. When I arrived in church I discovered that she was not there. There were three ladies besides myself but two of them were visitors and no singers, and the third had no confidence in herself. Now I can sing very well in a crowd, but when it comes to taking the lead, I'm dumb. I began to be very much alarmed and was just devising some plan by which to escape

from my unlucky position, when Miss C., the expected lady, made her appearance together with Mr. R., Mr. M, and Mr. W. My confidence revived and we got along first rate.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

VIII.8

Diary Entry by Susan Mathiot Gale, West River, October 2, 1859.

One day in October, Susan Mathiot Gale went to the South River church, which was not her regular church, and left a detailed account of the event in her diary.

I found a very ordinary looking brick church on the outside... There were three ladies who took a pew opposite mine that took my attention; one in particular, who was dressed in a fine figured muslin, with a red Shetland wool shawl, white kid gloves, and a very bridish looking bonnet. I gave this lady my undecided scrutiny for at least five minutes, very much to my own edification and in all probability to that of the trio, for when, (my attention being diverted for a single moment to see what time it was) I renewed my observation, I found them laughing. Now, when I see a parcel of women giggling immoderately, with no reasonable object of ridicule under view, I take it for granted, with all the sensitiveness and suspiciousness of "valuable articles, done up in small packages", that they are laughing at me. At what about me I could not divine. I took a mental survey of myself, from my bonnet, to my boots, but could find nothing to excite even a smile of ridicule, but quite the contrary, in my estimation. I had consulted three looking glasses before leaving home the first of which revealed only my face very distinctively, being flawed in a particular light. In vain to betray any lurking go of starch, or any stray hairs that might be forming a line across my forehead. The second gave my half length figure, and the third displayed me, like Solomon, in all my glory from toe to toe, with a foot or two of surrounding space in which to practice or graceful carriage. After having received the unbiased, favorable opinion of these three disinterested friends, who have been so often consulted, and

having given such deep reflections to the subject of dress; I of course could see no justifiable cause for mirth in my appearance. I came to the philosophic conclusion that “Wisdom comprehendeth not folly,” and turned my attention to more interesting and less mortifying subjects.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

VIII.9 *Confirmation Certificate, Georgette Mathiot Gale, Anne Arundel County, 1875.*

This confirmation certificate announces that Georgette Mathiot Gale received the Apostolic Rite of Laying on of Hands. Georgette was Susan Mathiot Gale's daughter, and would have been approximately eighteen years old at the time. Nothing is known of her life after her confirmation.

From the Maryland Manuscripts Collection.

VIII.10 *Letter from Mary Eliza Bradbury to Lewis H. Jackson, Elkton, March 22, 1855.*

Mary Eliza Bradbury was very involved in church activities at her Methodist church in Elkton. Her letters to Lewis H. Jackson contain many references to her deep belief in God and her hope that she would be able to be a better person.

She subscribed to a publication entitled *Beauty of Holiness*, which was compiled by the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. A.M. French and contained religious essays.

From the Papers of Mary Eliza Bradbury.

VII.11

*Letter from William Alexander to his brother
John H. Alexander, Annapolis, May 24, 1847.*

In 1847, William Alexander wrote to his brother about the resignation of the rector at St. Anne's Parish in Annapolis.

I learned upon reaching here this evening that Mr. Van Dusen [sic] has resigned this parish. Tomorrow morning it will be finally settled but the impression I believe is that he will go from here. William Pinkney's voice cannot be heard and I think the vestry will not take him.

William Pinkney was elected assistant bishop of the Maryland Episcopal Diocese in 1870, serving under William Rollinson Whittingham. Pinkney served as bishop following Whittingham's death in 1879 until his own death in 1883. William Alexander also mentioned someone named "C. Wyatt" and a "Mr. Wright" as candidates for the job. In the end, Cleland K. Nelson succeeded Mr. Van Deusen in the position.

From the Papers of John H. Alexander.

VII.12

*Diary Entry by Edith Brooke, Sandy Spring,
February 1884.*

The Brooke family were Quakers and were prominent members of the Society of Friends in Sandy Spring, Maryland. Edith Brooke's ancestor, James Brooke, provided the land on which the Quaker Meetinghouse was built in Sandy Spring.

On February 10, 1884, Edith reported going to a meeting with her brother and hearing an "excellent sermon from Abel Hull."

From the Papers of the Brooke Family.

YOUR PERSONAL PAPERS

We hope that *In the Parlor: The Personal Lives of Marylanders* has made visitors aware of the importance of letters, diaries, photographs, and other material collected over the years by individuals to the historical record. In addition to providing unique information regarding your life or the history of your family, these materials become part of the community's collective memory. The people featured in this exhibit were "ordinary" citizens, and, with the exception of Theodore R. McKeldin, who dedicated his life to a political career, they lived and died probably unaware of their impact on society.

With a few exceptions, the materials on display in this exhibit are facsimiles of original documents. Many of the original items are too frail to be handled frequently. Mary Eliza Bradbury's letters, for example, are so faded that the scanned versions of them were enhanced for easier reading while on display. If we had used originals, we would not have been able to layer items in cases or to mount them on exterior panels, as this would contribute to fading. To shield the originals that are on display, the lights in this exhibit space are covered with protective filters. Obviously, it would be impossible to display multiple pages at one time of the journals

of Leonidas Dodson or the diary of Susan Mathiot Gale without the use of copies. Use of facsimiles also means that the originals are currently available for research in the Maryland Room. If you would like to learn more about any of the individuals in this exhibit, you may do so by requesting the materials inside the Maryland Room. We promise that it will be a rewarding experience.

Even if you choose to keep your own personal or family papers in your home, as opposed to donating them to a manuscript repository, it is important to take adequate steps to preserve and to maintain them for future generations. Several resources offer assistance on preserving and caring for personal papers.

A Guide to Donating Your Personal or Family Papers to a Repository, Society of American Archivists
<http://www.archivists.org/publications/donating-familyrecs.asp>

Caring for Your Family Archives, National Archives and Records Administration
http://archives.gov/preservation/caring_for_your_family_archives.html

Caring for Your Collections, Library of Congress
<http://www.loc.gov/preserv/careothr.html>

Preserving My Heritage, Canadian Conservation

Institute

<http://preservation.gc.ca/no-flashindex.html>

Preserving Your Own Collections, Preservation Department, University of Maryland Libraries

<http://www.lib.umd.edu/TSD/PRES/personalpres2.html>

Caring for Personal Collections, Library

Preservation at Harvard

<http://preserve.harvard.edu/bibliographies/personalcollections.html>

Scrapbook and Home Archives Preservation, Image

Permanence Institute

http://www.rit.edu/~661www1/sub_pages/scrapbook.htm

In addition, there are many companies that specialize in archival supplies.

University Products

<http://www.universityproducts.com/>

Gaylord

<http://www.gaylord.com/>

Light Impressions

<http://www.lightimpressionsdirect.com/>

Hollinger

<http://www.hollingercorp.com/>

Exhibit Credits

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Jennie A. Levine
Curator
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