

August 5, 1924

Mr. William A. M. Van Bokkelen,  
276 Russ Building,  
San Francisco, Calif.

My dear Sir:

I have your interesting letter of July 22, telling me of the influence which your brother and Bishop Whittingham of Maryland brought to bear on Governor Hicks in 1861 when the question of calling a convention to carry Maryland into the Confederacy was under consideration.

Of course this is valuable material, but my engagements are such at the present moment that it would be impossible for me to give the time to its proper study and presentation. I should enjoy doing the work but have not and shall not for many months have the time.

Will you let me suggest that the Maryland Historical Society would be an excellent repository for the documents which you would collect. It would be well worth your while - indeed, it seems to me it is a kind of an obligation - to gather all of the corroborative material that you can get your hands on, and to put it into a collection where its value would be known and where it would be within the reach of students.

Thanking you for calling my attention to the matter and regretting that I cannot myself undertake what you suggest, believe me

Very truly yours,

Digitized Image, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.