

December 7, 1934.

My dear Miss Brayshaw:

Please excuse the long delay in replying to your letter of November 17th, as it is not that I am not interested, but that I have been so busy that it has been impossible for me to reply.

As you know the facts that I have been able to gather in connection with Old Marley Chapel, are very limited, although I have spent considerable time in search for information. Although I have never seen the old building, its "pious romance" has always had a great appeal to me. It is very much regretted to, as we all know that "Old Marley" is so rich in historical fact, which seem to have disappeared from view. Enclosed are two copies of the only information which I have been able to secure, which I hope will be of some benefit to you. The Act, I had heard of, and after a long search, I found in the Library in the Court of Appeals Building. The other is from a copy of the "Southern Churchman", the date of which is unknown, perhaps about 1904.

As you will note the Act is dated May 1747 and at that time the Chapel stood on private property, the owners of which refused to sell the two acres on which it had been built, and that the Chapel "hath for some years been out of Repair". The Southern Churchman states that the Chapel was built in 1731 (according to the Corner-Stone). Who secured this date and where, would be very interesting to know. It would not seem that the building should be very much "out of repair for some years", sixteen years after it had been built, and yet, it may not have been repaired at all since building. It is also noted from the Southern Churchman, that the old building was in use until 1861.

There is also an interesting note gleaned from notes found in the old "Register of Westminster Parish" of a vestry meeting on January 13, 1790. Among other business transacted is the following:- "Resolved that the Register take the lock of the Chapple doore and have a key made to it, that the doore may be kept lockt to keepe horses and cattle from going into the house and damaging it." It would seem from the wording of this resolution that the Chapel was not used as a place of worship in 1790. Was it still out of repair, or had it been repaired and was temporary out of use?

I am still very much interested in securing information which some day may become a history of Westminster Parish. The part "Old Marley" took in the Parish is very important and should be recorded. If you secure any information along this line I shall be very grateful if you will pass it along to me. I shall be very glad to give you anything which I may uncover.

Very respectfully,