

## THE FIRST LORD BALTIMORE AND HIS COLONIAL PROJECTS.

by Bernard C. Steiner.

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By a singular irony of fate the founder of Maryland died ere its charter was granted and before he had equipped a single expedition to settle the province. Yet every history of the province must begin with the name of George Calvert, for without his efforts the palatinate which was given his son might have remained part of Virginia. He came of a Flemish family, which had settled in Yorkshire, where his father, Leonard Calvert, as a country gentleman, lived at Danby-wisk, 4 or 5 miles east of Kipling. His mother was Alicia Crossland, an heiress, whose arms George Calvert quartered with those given him by the Herald's College in 1622. At this time the Norroy king of arms stated that the Calvert arms were "paley of six pieces, or & sables, a bend countercharged " and added to them as a crest, that of the Calverts of Flanders ; " the upper part or halves of two lances, the band roll, of the first sables, & the second or " standing in a ducal crown. This crest of the two bannerets floating from lanceheads was borne by the family from henceforth. The crossland arms were 'Argent & gules, a cross countercharged,' and the quartered coat of the two arms is still used by the State of Maryland for its great seal and for its flag.

At Kipling, about 1580, George Calvert was born. Whether there were other children is not known. His people were Anglicans, and he entered Trinity College, Oxford, when about 14 years of age, gradu-

« The chief authorities on the life of George Calvert, first Lord Baltimore, are : L. W. Wilhelm's *Life* (20 Fund Pubs. Md. Hist. Soc.) ; E. D. Neill's *Terra Mariae*, pp. 1-55; his *Sir George Calvert*, Balto. 1869 ; Virginia Carolorum, pp. 61 and fif ; *English Colonization of Am.*, pp. 182 and ff ; J. P. Kennedy's *Discourse on the Life and Character of George Calvert*, with the accompanying controversy, viz, B. U. Campbell's *Review of Kennedy's Discourse*, Kennedy's *Reply to the Review*, and *The Remarks of the U. S. Catholic Magazine on the discussion between Kennedy and his reviewer*, C. C. Hall's *Lords Baltimore*, Lecture 1 ; 1 *Bozraan's Md.*, pp. 232-260 ; W. H. Browne's *George and Cecilius Calvert, and his Md.* ; 1 *Scharfs Md.*, pp. 29-ff ; J. G. Morris's *Lords Baltimore* (8 Fund Pubs. Md. Hist. Soc.) ; S. F. Streeter's *Md. 200 Years Ago*; Gardner's *History of England and the Dictionary of National Biography*. See also Brantly, *the English in Md.*, in 3 *Winsor's Nar. and Crit. Hist.*, 517, and E. L. Didier " *The Calvert Family*," 6 *Lippincott*, 531 ; *A Baltimore Penny*, by H. W. Richardson, 10 *Mag.*, of *Am. Hist.*, 194 ; A Latin letter written by George Calvert, *Secretarius*, is found in I Hearne's *Diary*, 79

(Reliquiae Hernianse). See also I Shea's Roman Catholic Church in the U. S., pp. 28 and ff ; Calvert Papers, MSS. in Md. Hist. Soc. Library.

"See Hairs Great Seal of Maryland (Md. Hist. Soc. Fund Pubs. No. 23).

ating there in 1597, and writing a Latin elegy in 1596 on the death of Sir Henry Unton, ambassador to France. After graduation Calvert traveled on the Continent, as young men of means were wont to do to complete their education. There he may have met Sir Robert Cecil, who was sent on an embassy to France, and who was to become so valuable a patron to Calvert that the latter in gratitude named his eldest son for him. Queen Elizabeth died in 1603, and James I kept Cecil as secretary of state. We find that Calvert is already one of Cecil's assistants in the management of the lands included in the jointure of Queen Anne of Denmark. In the same year he was elected to Parliament from Bossiney, a Cornish borough, and shortly afterwards married Anne, the daughter of John Myne, of Hertfordshire. Eleven children were born of this marriage. Cecilius or Cecil, the eldest, was born in 1606 and became first lord proprietary of Maryland; the second son was named Leonard, for his grandfather, and became the first governor of the province, and the other sons were George, who came to Maryland with Leonard and seems to have died young ; Francis, who died before his father ; Henry, of whom we know nothing; and John, who died in infancy. Of the daughters Anne, the eldest, married William Peaseley," and Grace, the fourth. Sir Robert Talbot of Kildare ; of Dorothy, Elizabeth, and Helen we know nothing. In 1617 Calvert told his monarch that his wife was a good woman, " was not a wife with a witness " — i. e., that she would not betray what was confided to her.

On August 30, 1605, Calvert was given the honorary degree of M. A. from Oxford, among the forty -three who were so dignified at King James's visit to the university. During the next decade Calvert was steadily rising in official position, largely through his association with Cecil, whose private secretary he became in 1606, in which year the King, considering him a gentleman of good sufficiency, made him clerk of the crown of assize and peace in County Clare, Ireland. This was the first connection of Calvert with that kingdom, whence he doubtless drew much of the property which enabled him and his son to spend large sums on colonization projects. The connection with Ireland grew closer with the appointments to have charge of the musters of garrisons and to serve on two important commissions in 1613 to examine into the abuses of the Irish parliament and the grievances of the Roman Catholics. Other posts

came through Cecil's and James's favor. In 1610 Calvert was sent with messages to the ambassador in France, and in 1613 he was made one of the clerks of the privy council. Cecil died in 1612, leaving Calvert as one of his four executors, but Calvert was by that time secure in the King's favor and had just finished aiding him in an

« Wm. Peaseley was a servant of Calvert in Ireland in 1613, and must have been much older than his wife, who was born about 1606 (Neill, Va. Carolorum, p. 62),

argument against one Vorstius, a Dutch theologian," who wrote on the Attributes of the Deity. A painstaking, cautious, and faithful man, devoted to the royal service, Calvert became indispensable to the pedantic monarch who was trying to govern as his own prime minister. In 1617 he was knighted, and in 1619 he was advanced to the office of secretary of state. This office he hesitated to accept, for it was a very responsible and important one, especially as Buckingham, that powerful nobleman, had urged another's candidacy. Gardiner speaks of Calvert as "an industrious, modest man, who might be trusted to do his work silently and well." In 1620 he was made one of the two commissioners for the office of the treasurer, was granted an annual pension of £1,000, and an increased grant from the duties on silk, to continue for twenty-one years. In this year, too, he bought Avalon, in Newfoundland, and entered Parliament from Yorkshire as the colleague of Sir Thomas Wentworth, later the Earl of Strafford, who became one of his most intimate friends. It was a stirring time; the Thirty Years War had begun, and James's son-in-law, Frederick, the elector Palatine, had been driven from his recently acquired kingdom of Bohemia. Spain and France were rivals to obtain \* an English alliance, and that alliance could best be cemented by the marriage of Prince Charles, the heir of the English Crown. Calvert supported the project of a Spanish marriage, but the country party opposed it, and it fell to Calvert to be one of the leading defenders of the court party and of the marriage in the House of Commons. The French ambassador wrote of him at this time as "an honorable, sensible, well-minded man, courteous toward strangers, full of respect toward ambassadors, zealously intent upon the welfare of England, but by reason of all these good qualities entirely without consideration or importance." The exertions of Calvert to obtain liberal grants of money for the King led the latter to grant him on February 18, 1621, a manor of 2,300 acres in County Longford, Ireland, to be held under condition that he should be "conformable on point of religion." When Calvert professed a change in his religion four years later, he surrendered his patent and received a grant in fee simple without the

religious clause. This Longford estate was then created into the manor of Baltimore, whence the title of the peerage was taken. Why the name was given is unknown, nor does it seem to have remained, for no Baltimore can now be found in County Longford, and the Baltimore on the south coast of the island is not connected with the Calvert family.

" In 1613 he was suggested as ambassador to The Hague, but it was thought he would not take it, as he " was reasonably well settled at home " and had " a wife and many children, which are no easy carriage, specially so far." (Neill, Eng. Col., 180.)

" There was some objection to him as a nonresident and because he would be more devoted to the King's interest than to that of the constituency.

H. Doc. 923, 59-1 8

On August 8, 1622, Calvert's wife died in childbirth, and he erected in her memory a monument which still stands in the parish church of Hertingfordbury." In this year he was negotiating with the Dutch and acting as special commissioner to arrest and punish seminary priests and other Roman clergy remaining in England contrary to law. February, 1623, saw Prince Charles and Buckingham start their well-known Spanish expedition, and Calvert was very busy with the projects for the marriage with the Infanta and with negotiations with the Spanish ambassadors in London. The marriage contract was signed in London in July, but in the autumn Charles returned without the bride and the popular sentiment loudly opposed the match. Calvert sat in the Parliament of 1624 for Oxford University, not for Yorkshire, and all through that year rumors were rife that he would resign his post of secretary of state. He spent the summer at Thistle worth, whither Wentworth frequently wrote him. His final resignation was doubtless hastened when he was appointed on a commission to try recusants, in January, 1625. He could not conscientiously serve on this, for he had become a Roman Catholic himself, and this he told the King, tendering the resignation of his secretaryship. James kindly received him, permitted him to sell his position for £6,000, and on February 16, 1624-25, created him Baron Baltimore, or Baltemore, as it was more often written in that century, in the peerage of Ireland. To that island Calvert repaired and there he probably remained for two years.^

Sir George Calvert was among those early interested in American colonization. He was a member of the Virginia Company in 1609 and continued as such in 1620, and was a councilor of the New England Company in 1622. In July, 1624, a month after the revoca-

tion of the Virginia Company's charter, he was appointed one of the quorum of the provincial council in England.<sup>^</sup> His first separate venture was on the island of Newfoundland. There he bought from Sir William Vaughan in 1620 a part of the Peninsula of Avalon '<sup>^</sup>

" The inscription is given in Kennedy's Discourse, p. 36. Eight months thereafter Calvert was at the King's festival in Windsor : " Very gay and gallant, all in white, cap-a-pie even to his white hat and feather."

<sup>^</sup> Meehari, C. R., in his " Rise and Fall of the Irish Franciscan Monasteries," quotes David Roth, Bishop of Ossory, who wrote to Peter Lombard, Archbishop of Armagh, in April, 1025, that " the Lord Baltimore with his wife and family are now come to dwell in Ireland and reside in Femes, County Wexford, where he hath purchased land of Sir Richard . Maisterson of the value of £1,600. The place is to be called Cloghanon, where he will build, and in the interim he dwelleth in the manor house of Femes, having left 2 children at Waterford to be brought up in a private school of humanity." Neill, Eng. Col., 201, suggests that he repaired to Ireland through hesitation to take the oath to Charles I as member of the privy council.

<sup>'^</sup> I Story on Constitution, 22 ; 1 Scharf's Md., 98.

<sup>^</sup> See Prowse's History of Newfoundland, pp. Ill, 113, 121, 128, 134, 141, 155, 156, 162, 170, 179 ; Browne's Md., pp. 5-14 ; Hall's Lords Baltimore, 14-78. On the meaning of Avalon see 10th Ser., 11, N. and Q., 411 (Nov. 19, 1904). Neill, Eng. Col., 201, says Calvert was a member of the East India Company.

extending northward from Aqua Forte. Vaughan had bought in 1616 the land south of a line extending from Petty Harbor across to Placentia Bay from the London and Bristol Company, which company — also known as Guy's, from its most prominent member — had received a royal charter in 1608 for the land from Cape Bonavista to Placentia Bay. Vaughan's chief seat was at Trepassey, on the south coast, and his colonists were mainly Welshmen; but he was no leader and the men were but idle fellows, who had not even made themselves houses, but " lay in such cold and simple rooms all the winter as the fishermen had formerly built there." Through need of money he sold the northern portion of his grant to Lord Falkland and to Baltimore, a former fellow-vStudent at Oxford. Whitbourne's Brief Discourse of the Newfoundland was published in 1620, and doubtless the commendations of this writer had something to do with Baltimore's embarking in the enterprise. In the next year he sent over a body of colonists in two ships, one of which was the A7<sup>^</sup>k, of which we shall hear again. Capt. Edward Wynne was sent over as governor, and the seat of the colony was located at Ferryland, whence Wynne wrote him on July 28, 1622 : " Your Honour has greater hopes here than tofore I have been able to discern. All things succeeded beyond my expectation." He reports that on September 5,

1621, they began building a house, which was finished by Allhallow-tide ; that they sunk a well, and that during the winter they cut trees for a palisado, inclosing about 4 acres, gathered firewood, and hewed boards. In May, and again in July, a ship came from Baltimore. By the time Wynne wrote he could tell of sowing of wheat, oats, pease, and barley, amounting to 2 acres in all, and of a kitchen garden of half an acre containing lettuce, radishes, carrots, cole-worts, turnips, etc. They had also a meadow of 3 acres, had broken ground for a brew-house room, had a " wharf in good forwardness," and were j<sup>l</sup>anning a " pretty street." There still remain a few cobblestones on the site, which tradition says were laid by Lord Baltimore's colony. With Wynne's letter went another from Capt. Daniel Powell, Avho had commanded the ship which sailed from Plymouth on April 18 and arrived at Avalon on May 26. He wrote that the " Coast and Harbouio, which we sailed by, are so bold and good as I assure myself there can be no better in the world. \* \* \*

The Land, whereon our Governor hath planted, is so good and commodious that, for the quantity, I think there is no better in many parts of England. His house, which is strong & well contrived, standeth very warm at the foot of an ascending hill on' the south east and defended by a hill standing on the further side of the haven on the north west. The beach on the north and south sides of the land lock it, & the seas on both sides are so near & indifferent to it that one may shoot a bird bolt into either sea." This description of the site is graphic and accurate. Ferryland's name is probably a corruption of Fore Island, and the harbor is well named. To reach the spot one sails along " the straight shore of Avalon " for 50 miles south of St. John's, or takes the mail wagon which leaves " town " thrice a week in summer and twice a week in winter. After a hard day's drive up hill and down, with fine views of ocean, ponds, hills, and moors, around a number of bays, one finally descends the hill from Capelin Bay and sees Ferryland spread before him. The harbor is nearly landlocked. On the north side a promontory projects with shingly beach. On it are a few houses, and flakes, a " fish room," and ruins of a large stone mansion of the eighteenth century. Thence the highway runs along the shore on the edge of a steep hill, once wooded but now bare and gaunt, the stones and rocks left visible after forest fires. Along the road are scattered houses and a tiny Anglican Church. A huge Roman Catholic Church stands at a turn in the highway and shortly beyond comes the Lord Baltimore's peninsula, south of which the road trends to the west over the hills to Aqua Forte, 5 miles away. Descending to the water's edge and crossing the shingle w<sup>h</sup>ich forms the isthmus one comes to flakes covered in summer with fagots of fish at night and with spread fish

by day. Beside them stand the buildings of the " fish room," and then the land rises into the " Downs," a high grassy peninsula, a steep cliff on the south but sloping or " shoaling," as the Newfoundlanders say, on the north to the water's edge. At the base of this hill, to the south of the cobblestone pavement is a smooth place which is still known as the site of Lord Baltimore's house. On the Downs cattle graze and a small garden is fenced in where cabbages and oats struggle to maturity. On the harbor side of the peninsula a bent strip of shingle incloses the Pool, a small inner harbor completely landlocked and opening only westward, where it is said the British man-of-war Hazard<sup>^</sup> commanded by Sir Edward Pellew, wintered once. Lord Nelson was midshipman on a war vessel wintering there, and legend shows the house at the north end of the harbor where he went to procure milk for the ship's table. A few hundred yards eastward the Downs narrow to a single ridge and then widen again, and on this eastmost portion, covered with bushes, stands the Ferryland light-house. To the north. Isle aux Bois, now a treeless waste, is across a narrow channel and still bears the ruins of old redoubts and rusty cannon, recalling the fortifications against the French which the doughty merchant. Carter, raised in the Seven Years' war. The harbor is still further inclosed by a series of jagged black rocks, which rise from the water between Isle aux Bois and the north shore, with but narrow waterways left for vessels to enter. It is a bleak and wild scene and the severity of the climate is such that the fair promise of the early summers of Baltimore's colony was not fulfilled. Yet the spot has a fascination, and one who has experienced the cordial hospitality of the Ferrylanders can not help wishing to return thither.

On August 17, 1622, Wynne wrote again, complaining of the destruction of trees, and speaking hopefully of the crops and of the fisheries. Forest fires are also spoken of in letters of the day. Wynne expected 23 men to be with him that year.

So encouraged was Baltimore by these accounts that he pressed forward with a successful application for a royal charter for the whole island of Newfoundland in December, 1622. On March 30, 1623, a regrant was made, and this was revised and finally given on April 7, 1623. It confirmed him in the bounds he bought from Vaughan and extended them on the north, so that they ran from Petty Harbor around the St. John's colony to Salmon Cove, on Conception Bay, and thence along the limits of Guy's colony to Placentia Bay, thus giving Baltimore another water front.. This charter was granted to Calvert, because he had "to his great cost" purchased

land "not yet husbanded or planted, tho' in some parts thereof inhabited by certain barbarous people, and now intends to "transport thither a! very great colony of the English nation." The charter is important, as the model of that of the province of Maryland. We find in it, as in the latter, the grants of the patronage and advowsons of all churches to be built there, and of civil rights as full as those held by the Bishop of Durham, making the province a county palatine. This province of Avalon was held by knight service on payment of one-fifth of the precious metals. Baltimore had power given him to make laws and appoint judges, to grant pardons, to make special laws in an emergency without consent of the freeholders, to muster and train men and declare martial law, to confer titles, and to incorporate towns. The province was free from all customs and could export free of duties all goods to England and foreign countries for ten years. After that time only such customs should be paid as the English pay. Baltimore could constitute ports of entry and enjoy all custom dues. No taxes on Avalon should be laid by the English Crown. Free liberty of fishing and of drying and salting fish, both in the sea and in the ports of the province, was reserved to all the King's subjects, and no interpretation of the charter was to prejudice " God's holy and true Christian religion, or the allegiance due the Crown."

Wynne and Powell both seem to have been unfaithful servants, but it was some years before Calvert found it out. In 1625 he intended to visit Avalon, but did not succeed in leaving England at that time.

On June 7, 1627, he sailed, accompanied by several members of his family and two priests, and arrived there in the end of July. He remained but a few weeks.'^ Of the life of the province we know almost nothing until Calvert visited it, except that he wrote Secretary Conway in August, 1623, asking the pardon of a Captain Neill, who had been convicted of piracy, but had protected the infant plantation in Newfoundland. Cecilius Calvert, in 1637, said that Captain Mason and Sir Arthur Aston succeeded Captain Wynne as governors of Avalon. Calvert returned to Avalon in 1628 with his second wife, Joan, and his children, except his eldest son, Cecil. Baltimore's sons-in-law. Sir R. Talbot and William Peaseley, went with him. Just before he sailed for Avalon he wrote Sir Thomas Wentworth " I must either go and settle it in better order or else give it over and lose all the charges I have been at hitherto for other men to build their fortunes upon. And I had rather be esteemed a fool by some for the hazard of one month's journey than to prove myself one certainly for six years by-past if the business be now lost for the want

of a little pains and care." It is quite possible that Calvert's entreaties at this time that Wentworth should not willfully oppose the court, may have been a chief element in changing him from the country party to that of the court, a change of momentous import for English history. Soon after his arrival in Ferryland, where he lived in a stone house, Baltimore wrote to the King asking for two men of war to guard the coast against the French, with whom war had been declared through Buckingham's policy. De la Rade, of Dieppe, with three ships and 400 men, came into the harbor of Cape Broyle, surprised the fishermen, and took two of their ships. Against the French Calvert sent two ships, the Ark and the Dove^ and a hundred men, on the arrival of which ships the French let slip their cables and fled, leaving the English ships and 67 of their own men. Baltimore then sent his ships against the French, with Captain Fearn's man-of-war, the Victory^ which chanced to be there, and found six fishing vessels at Trepassey, which they took and sent to England. One of the prize ships, the St. Claude^ was sent under command of Leonard Calvert, one of Baltimore's sons, whom we shall meet in Maryland as its first governor. In December, 1628, one of the six prize ships w^as granted by the Crown, for a year, to guard Avalon. The St. Claude was chosen and placed under Leonard's command, for which kindness Baltimore warmly thanked the King. Calvert

« Wilhelm's George Calvert, p. 141, Henry Walpole Authors of England, p. 313, thus quotes Sir William Alexander, to whom Nova Scotia was granted : " Master Secretary Calvert hath planted a company at Ferriland, who both for buildings and making trial of the ground hath done more than was ever performed by any in so short a time, having on hand a brood of horses, cows, and other bestials, and, by the industry of his people, he is beginning to draw back yearly some benefits from theace."

had engaged in these naval conflicts without the license of letters of marque, and wrote to Buckingham asking that he would " pardon all errors of formality in the proceedings." He said plaintively " I came to build and settle and sow, and I am fallen to fighting Frenchmen." Leonard Calvert, in England, petitioned for antedated letters of marque, that he might be legally entitled to a share in the prize money.

Lady Baltimore is said to have left Avalon in the autumn of 1628 and gone to Jamestown, in Virginia, but Baltimore stayed till 1629. He had other difficulties besides those with the French. Rev. Erasmus Stourton, an Anglican clergyman, was found by Calvert in Conception Bay in 1627. He was at Ferryland in 1628, and was banished by the proprietor in October of that year. Returning to England, he reported at Plymouth that the mass was openly celebrated at

Ferryland by a Romish priest and that a Protestant's child had been baptized into the Church of Rome against his father's will. This report had been referred to some of the privy council by Charles I, and Calvert, in a letter written from Ferryland on August 19, 1629, thanks the King for his kindness in protecting him " against calumny and malice." In the same letter he states that he intends " presently to quit my residence and to shift to some warmer climate of this new world, where the winters be shorter and less vigorous." ^ In Avalon Baltimore has found " that, from the midst of October to the midst of May, there is a sad face of winter upon all this land, both sea and land so frozen for the greater part of the time as they are not penetrable, no plant or vegetable thing appearing out of the earth until it be about the beginning of May, nor fish in the sea, besides the air so intolerable cold as it is hardly to be endured. By means whereof and of much salt water my house hath been a hospital all the winter ; of 180 persons, 50 sick at a time, myself being one, and 9 or 10 of them died." This had so discouraged him that he thought of " retiring myself to my former quiet ; " but his inclination " carried him, naturally, to these kind of works." Consequently, he determined to " commit this place to fishermen, that are able to encounter storms and hard weather, and to remove himself, with about 40 persons, to Virginia, where he hopes Charles will grant him a precinct of land," with the same privileges as he possessed in Avalon.

Calvert did not delay to carry out his plan. Leaving Ferryland within a month of that letter, he came to Virginia about the beginning of October, planning to settle to the southward, where are now the Carolinas.^ On his arrival at Jamestown the settlers objected to papists making their abode in the province, and Baltimore and his

« 3 Md. Arch. Coun., 16.

» 3 Md. Arch. Coun., 17.

followers were tendered the oaths of supremacy and allegiance. The Roman Catholics could not take these," and Baltimore offered to take a modified oath, which was refused, so the colonists were forced to leave Virginia. A letter, justifying the Virginians' course, was sent thence to Charles I on November 30, and among the four signatures appears that of William Claiborne. Thus begins the long opposition of that man to Baltimore's project. The opposition to Calvert was not confined to the Virginian council, but the common people there were also aroused, and Thomas Tindall was pilloried " for giving my Lord Baltimore the lie and threatening to knock him down." However, the Virginians' opposition was not such but that Calvert

left his wife and family at Jamestown while he sought a new charter in England. Charles answered Baltimore that he regretted the failure of Avalon, and advised him to " desist from further prosecuting your designs that way, and with your first convenience to return back to your native country." He returned, but prosecuted his petition for a new grant, and delayed longer than he had planned. Consequently, he obtained a letter from the lords of council to the governor of Virginia, directing the latter to afford Lady Baltimore and his family assistance in her return to England, which return was made in the St. Claude. This vessel was lent again to Lord Baltimore by the Crown, and was wrecked on the coast of England on her return voyage. The lives of the passengers were saved, but all the property on board was lost.

The rest of the story of the province of Avalon is quickly told. George Calvert seems to have paid little attention to it after he left the place. Cecil, his successor, sent Capt. William Hill as his deputy in 1632. Hill resided four or five years in Baltimore's house at Ferryland, and sent yearly accounts of his proceedings and of the profits. On November 13, 1637, in spite of an order of the King issued the previous May, that he would never permit any proceeding to overthrow the patent, a new charter of the whole island of Newfoundland was granted to the Duke of Hamilton, Sir David Kirke, and others. This charter stated that Baltimore had deserted his province. Kirke came in 1638 and turned Hill out of the mansion house at Ferryland. Cecil Calvert protested against this, and in 1651 Kirke was ordered to repair to England. On a second voyage thither, in 1652, he was thrown into prison at Lord Baltimore's suit and died there. In 1655 Sir James Kirke, brother of Sir David, succeeded in getting John Claypole, Cromwell's son-in-law, interested

"The oath of supremacy (1 Scharf, 48) stated that the King is the "only Supreme Governor of this realm \* \* \* in all spiritual or ecclesiastical things or causes." Some writers have thought the Virginians had no right to require these oaths, but Wilhelm's George Calvert, p. 144, apparently proves they were within the letter of the law, and it is noteworthy that Calvert made no protest as to the legality of their action.

in Avalon, and in 1660 Sir Lewis Kirke, another brother, petitioned for a confirmation of the grant. Baltimore protested, and the commissioners who heard the case reported in his favor. A decree was therefore given in his behalf. In 1661 Baltimore sent out Captains Pearce and Raynor as commissioners to dispossess Kirke's heirs. They did this, and Avalon returned for a time to Calvert's control, and a renewal of the patent was granted. One Swanley was appointed governor in 1663, and seems to have resided in Ferryland

for some years. A few years later, however, Ferryland was again given to the fishermen, and in 1754, when Frederick, Lord Baltimore, tried to revive his rights to Avalon, he was told they had lapsed through disuse for many years.

In the spring of 1631 Baltimore wrote a tract, which was not published until 1642, and sent it to King Charles. It is entitled "An Answer to Tom Tell Truth," and is a plea for a closer alliance with Spain, a project Calvert had cherished for a full decade, and for abstention from aiding the cause of the elector palatine and thus involving England in the Thirty Years' war. Calvert's fidelity to his monarch was shown until the last.

On returning to England George, Lord Baltimore, pressed his claims for an American principality, and in February, 1632, a patent was prepared to give him the territory from the James to the Chowan or Roanoke and extending westward to the mountains. Such opposition to this grant was made by the members of the Virginia Company in London that it was withdrawn, and another one prepared for the land north of the Virginia settlements and stretching northward to the southern boundary of New England. This latter patent George Calvert was not to receive, for on Sunday, April 15, 1632, he died, leaving, by will made the day before, "all his estate to his son, Cecilius, whom he appointed his executor. He was buried in the church of St. Dunstan, Fleet street, London, which church has since been destroyed by fire, and no monument stands over his remains. A man who had risen from obscurity to the highest official position without scandal touching his name, he is shown us in his portrait by Mytens with refined, long, oval face, from which melancholy eyes look forth under high arched brows. He wears a moustache and a pointed beard. He was not brilliant, but industrious, prudent, tactful, faithful, and reliable. His nobility of character is shown by his letter of condolence to Wentworth on the death of the latter's wife,<sup>^</sup> a quotation from which may well close a sketch of Calvert's life:

" I have been myself a long time a man of sorrows ; but all things, my lord, in this world pass away, statutum es<sup>^</sup>, wife, children, honor,

« Wilhelm, p. 151.

" See Neill, *Terra Mariae*, p. 51. *Wentworth's yielding to the King's demands* was largely due to Calvert's persuasions. Neill, Eng. Col., p. 206.

wealth, and what else is dear to flesh and blood; they are but lent

us till God please to call for them back again that we may not esteem anything our own or set our hearts upon anything but Him alone, who only remains forever.

" I beseech his Almighty Goodness to grant that your lordship may, for His sake, bear this great cross with meekness and patience, whose only son, our dear Lord and Saviour, bore a greater for you, and to consider that these humiliations, though they be very bitter, yet are they sovereign medicines, ministered unto us by our Heavenly Physician, to cure the sickness of our souls if the fault be not ours."