

in a Catholic church. This he could not do in England, for the laws there were very severe against Catholics. So Calvert, like



The first Lord Baltimore.

Born at Kipling, Yorkshire, England, about 1580; member of Parliament; secretary of state. He died in 1632.

many other Englishmen of his time, looked to America as a place where he might worship in his own way. He secured from the king, who was his warm friend, a charter giving him a large tract of land in the region of Chesapeake Bay. He did not live to take part in the founding of the colony, but after his death all the rights granted in the charter were conferred on his son, Cecil Calvert, who took up the work begun by his father and sent out his brother Leonard to act as the governor of the Maryland colony.

33. Self-Government in Maryland; Religious Freedom; Quarrel with

Virginia.—The Maryland colonists were not compelled to undergo such sufferings as their Virginia neighbors had passed through. They won the good will of the Indians and learned from them how to bake pone and fry hominy. They began at once to till the soil and were soon raising good crops of tobacco. By the terms of their charter Cecil Calvert was made proprietor (owner) of all the land of the colony and was given power to govern it as he thought best. But the people did not allow the proprietor to govern the colony precisely as he pleased. They demanded for themselves the right to make laws, and the right was given them. So the settlers of Maryland as well as the settlers of Virginia very early began to enjoy the right to manage their own affairs. And they also enjoyed the precious right of worshiping God in their own way, for one of the early laws of Maryland provided that no person of the Christian faith should be harmed on account of his religion.

The Virginia colonists did not at first look kindly on the Maryland colonists, for they thought that the land that was given to Calvert really belonged to Virginia. Indeed, William Claiborne,