

continua

Caltimore

An Act concerning Religion

[The following text is a dense, handwritten manuscript on parchment, containing the full text of the Act. The handwriting is in a cursive script typical of the mid-17th century. The text is organized into paragraphs and includes several distinct sections, such as the opening preamble and various provisions regarding religious freedom and the rights of individuals.]

[The text begins with 'Caltimore' written in a decorative hand, followed by the title 'An Act concerning Religion'. The main body of the text is written in a dense cursive script, detailing the provisions of the act. There are several large initials and headings throughout the document, such as 'Section' and 'Item'. The parchment shows signs of age, with some staining and wear visible.]

This is the official draft on parchment of *An Act Concerning Religion*, owned by the Maryland Historical Society. Probably a paper copy was sent from Maryland to England where an employee of Lord Baltimore wrote this official text. After receiving Lord Baltimore's signature (visible, top left, as *C. Baltimore*) it was doubtless returned to Maryland for official proclamation. It bears on its reverse the notation: "Brought

from Maryland in ye troublesome times," referring to the Puritan rebellion in 1654-1661. Aside from minor differences, the text is the same as that printed at the end of this brochure. This document is one of 1300 papers and account books belonging to the lords Baltimore which were purchased in 1888 from the heirs of the last Lord by certain members of the Maryland Historical Society and presented to that institution.



CECILIUS CALVERT
1606-1675
Second Baron of Baltimore
Founder of Maryland



GEORGE CALVERT
1580?-1632
First Baron of Baltimore
Planner of the Maryland Colony