

enemies, he might stand condemned with Claiborne, but his memory is clear from that reproach. All that he asked from King, Parliament, or Protector was that his charter should be protected, until he could be shown to have violated it."

The second editor of the Archives, Clayton C. Hall, Esq., gave a similar judgment in his "Lords Baltimore," at p. 61, thus: "Throughout, Cecilius seems never to have lost courage and, under all circumstances, he bore himself with wisdom, patience, forbearance, and tact and, by these qualities, he triumphed in the end. His own interests and his own authority, he carefully guarded, but at the same time, he as carefully sought the welfare of the Province and of the people, who were in a sense his subjects, and when concessions seemed reasonably demanded, he knew how and when to yield and so exercised a much less autocratic power than was conferred by the terms of the charter from which his authority was derived."

These estimates coincide with the opinion of the present editor. With the period now begun in this volume, the student of Maryland History loses the wise guidance of John Leeds Bozman, the first historian of Maryland, whose remarkable work closes at this date. A new period had been reached, new questions arose, new conditions of living were experienced, the separation of Maryland from Virginia was certain, and thirty years followed before Baltimore's power in the Province should again be overthrown. The Province no longer had only two centres of life; but shores of the Chesapeake were becoming dotted with plantations and the tobacco ships penetrated nearly every river and estuary which was tributary to the Bay.

Lord Baltimore was to reap the fruit of his labors and his descendants should gain a rich return from the Province which he had founded and over which he had resumed his rule.

John Bruce in his Introduction, page vii, to the "Letters and Papers of the Verney Family" (Camden Soc. Pubs., vol. 56, 1853). wrote: "It would be a great excellence in our literature, and would make publications of this description far more valuable than they generally are, if attention were more frequently given to the precise circumstances and social position of the persons from whom original papers emanated, or to whom they relate. It is an erroneous, although among antiquaries by no means an uncommon notion, that unofficial papers are only of importance when they can be connected with the most interesting events or the most noble families. I should contend, on the contrary, that the value of such papers is to be estimated by the degree in which they give an insight into the feelings and opinions, the real inner life, and not the mere outside appearance, of the men and women, whatever their station, to whom they relate." While our official records for the Provincial Period are