

12,000 in 1660 while probably rather too large, may not be far out of the way. It is not unlikely that the population figures for the second half of the seventeenth century will prove to be about as follows:

8,000.....1650	11,000.....1660	16,000.....1670
20,000.....1680	25,000.....1690	32,000.....1700

As would be expected, there are constant references to *horses, cattle, sheep and swine*. There had been such an increase in the number of horses running wild over the plantations, that in 1671 the Assembly passed an act prohibiting their importation (*Arch. Md. ii*, 281-282, 333-334). At the November 1672 session of the Talbot County Court, two cases involving the violation of this law were heard (*Arch. Md. liv*, 541-542). Before the passage of the act of 1671 Joseph Wickes had brought action for trespass at the November 1669 session of the Talbot Court against William Osborn and others who were driving a herd of seventy-one horses, and had pastured them upon Wickes' land (*Arch. Md. liv*, 452-453). These were doubtless "th<sup>e</sup> Long Iland horses Coursares", with whom a certain Jno. Groves had come into the Province in the year 1669, as a servant of Robert Story of Long Island, as he so declared at on August 1671 Talbot County Court (*Arch. Md. liv*, 502-503). Probably of this same group of coursers, or horse dealers, of Long Island, was Denis White of New York who brought suit at the August 1670 session of this same court in the matter of a disputed horse deal, and who at the March 1671 court, then described as a "horse-courser of New England", was charged with being the father of a bastard child by a servant girl, Ann Yorke (*Arch. Md. liv*, 470, 488). Mention has already been made of suits to recover wagers on horse races (pp. xxv-xxvi).

The *coarseness of manners and language* already referred to as prevalent in the mid-seventeenth century, especially among the poorer freemen and servant class, is to be found in the testimony of witnesses recorded in these county records. Notable examples of this are to be seen in the following Charles County cases: Stratton *vs.* Turner (p. 31), Nevill *vs.* Baker (pp. 231-234), Baker *vs.* Thompson (pp. 234-237), Lumbrozo *vs.* Goold (pp. 355-357), and Dodd *vs.* Neville (pp. 375-480).

There is occasional mention of *stores* for the sale of merchandize. One was kept by Capt. William Batten in St. Mary's County; one by Dr. John Meekes of Charles County (p. 416); and one by M<sup>r</sup>. Utie at Severn, probably Capt. Nathaniel Utie later of Baltimore County (*Arch. Md. liv*, 71). Merchandise was often brought into the Province and sold by ship captains direct to the planters. What was obviously an instance of this kind is disclosed by Edward Richardson, merchant of London then in the Province, recording under date of May 13, 1664, some forty-six bills of sale due by various prominent planters, either to Edmund Custis & Co., merchants, of London, or to Robert Custis, merchant, of Rotterdam, and Capt. Lancelot Anderson of Hull (pp. 466-476, 516-518). These bills of debt, or promissory notes, were all dated in the spring of 1664, when the Custis vessel, commanded by Capt. Anderson, was doubtless at anchor in Charles County waters, and were made payable five or six months later.