

or known by the name of White Marble Branch, and from thence with a northeast line, to the extent of this province, shall be, and is hereby constituted founded and incorporated into a county of this province, by the name of Queen Anne's county and to have and enjoy all rights benefits, privileges, equal with the other counties of this province.

The eastern limits of the province of Maryland remained unsettled during the years of controversy between the proprietors of Maryland and those of Pennsylvania who had acquired control of Delaware until the Chancery decision of 1750, and no line was run to indicate its location until a decade later when the local surveyors who immediately preceded Mason and Dixon cut a vista along the boundary as it now is in their efforts to establish a true tangent line. The boundary was not marked until 1765, when Mason and Dixon erected the well-known monuments which had been imported from England. Before the settlement of the boundary there had been little or no development of the disputed territory which lay midway between the waters of the Delaware and the Chesapeake and little inconvenience had arisen from the uncertainty regarding the position of the State boundary.

Scarcely ten years after the final settlement of the eastern boundary, portions of Queen Anne's and Dorchester counties were erected into the new county of Caroline. According to the Act²² the boundary line between Queen Anne's and Caroline counties was to run from the intersection of the State boundary with

"the main road that leads from the Beaver-dam causeway to Dover-town in Kent county, upon Delaware, thence with the said road to the Long marsh, thence with the said marsh and stream of the branch of Tuckahoe creek to Tuckahoe bridge, thence with the said creek to Great Choptank river."

According to this boundary all the territory lying between the main branch of the Choptank on the east and Tuckahoe bridge on the west, which had formerly been a part of Queen Anne's county was taken from it and given to Caroline.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY ELECTION DISTRICTS.

1798 Ch. 115. County divided into 3 election districts.

1799 Ch. 48. Confirms Acts of 1798 Ch. 115.

²² Laws of Maryland 1773, Chapter 10, Liber R G. Fol. 249.