

said road to the North East Creek at Gilpin's Bridge, thence by the present lines of the ninth and the Pennsylvania line, to the place of beginning.

That all that portion hereby laid off from the fifth and sixth districts shall belong to the ninth election district." 1860 Ch. 338. Changes line between 3d and 5th election districts to run as follows:

"Beginning on a point on said line where the road from Elkton, to Turkey Point, crosses Plumb creek, it shall run in a straight line direct to the spot where the road from Elkton to North East crosses Mill creek."

CHARLES COUNTY.

The history of Charles County falls into two distinct periods, the first relating to the old Charles County, the second to that which has been maintained to the present day.

Old Charles County was erected in accordance with instructions received from Lord Baltimore, who had apparently made an agreement with his friend Robert Brookes that the latter should be commander of a county to be erected for the purpose of including the colonists which Brookes was to bring over to Maryland. In accordance with these instructions the Governor on November 21, 1650,²⁸ with the advice of his Council

"erected the Southside of Putuxent River beginning at the Sasquehannah Point extending it self from thence into the Middle of the Woods towards St Maries Southward, and from thence Westward along the middle of the Woods betwixt Patomeck and Putuxent Rivers as farr as Matapania towards the Head of Putuxent River and from thence againe Eastward along the River side to the said Sasquehannah Point, into a County by the name of Charles County, and Robert Brookes Esqr to bee Commander thereof."

The local terms introduced here are of interest and warrant a word of explanation especially since various local historical authorities have drawn wrong inferences regarding them. Susquehanna Point is the same as the present Cedar Point and the line proposed for the southern boundary of Old Charles County corresponds approximately to the location of the present Three Notch Road. At that time the Patuxent River was only thought of as extending to the head of navigation or to the junction

²⁸ This date is taken from the revocation, Md. Arch., 3: 308. Md. Arch., 3: 259.