

1656, shows a payment of 200 pounds of tobacco to "person Rosior for Coming to Christen young Will Cox" (*Arch. Md. liv*, 98). John Legat, a minister of Charles County, who was brought before the Provincial Court in March 1662/3, charged by Dr. Jacob Lumbrozo with having married certain servants without a license, was acquitted (*Arch. Md. xlix*, 84-85). Legat is only incidently mentioned in the Charles County Court record (pp. 270, 345). The paucity of Protestant clergymen in southern Maryland is shown in the case previously cited of Giles Tompkinson, who when brought before the Charles County Court, November 14, 1665, on the charge of bastardy, claimed the validity of a common law marriage by consent and proclamation, because there was at the time no Protestant clergyman in the Province, and as a lawful churchman there was no other form of marriage ceremony possible (pp. xxxiv, 599). The Rev. Francis Doughtie had left Charles County some three years before this date. There are only two references in the county records to a Catholic priest, and both of these are to the well known Father Francis Fitzherbert (pp. 133, 440), who had been tried and acquitted on the charge of treason and sedition at a Provincial Court held in October 1658, when it was charged among other things, that he had threatened to excommunicate Thomas Gerrard, the lord of St. Clement's Manor, for not bringing his wife and family to mass (*Arch. Md. xli*, 144-146, 566-567). At a Charles County Court held July 2, 1661, Mr. William Robinson, a planter, had a certain William Wenham brought before the court who, he charged "hath dishonored your Petitioners hous by committing Fornication" with one of Robinson's maidservants. A witness testified, when the question of marriage was raised, that Wenham had said that "hee was afrayd M^r. Fitch herbert woold excommunicate him", but that "hee knew not what to doe to procure a pare of shoes and stockings to bee married in" (p.133-134).

Mention is to be found of churches in both Charles and Talbot counties. At the March 4, 1661/2 session of the Charles County Court, Mr. Edmund Lendsey, a church warden, sued a certain William Hills for 150 pounds of tobacco, which the latter had promised that he would pay the minister, and the court ordered the payment to Lendsey as churchwarden (p. 193). The Rev. John Legat was doubtless the minister referred to. On July 22, 1661, Lendsey had patented a tract of 100 acres on the north side of the Potomac on the easternmost side of a creek "formerly called Nanjemy Creeke but now Avon River", and on February 10, 1662/3, assigned this patent to William Fox, reserving "unto the Church one Acre of land which formarly he had given unto the Church . . . which the Church now standeth on" (p.328-329). At a court held September 17, 1672, in Talbot County, reference was made to a highway from Corsico Creek to the Church by the highway between Chester River and Wye River (*Arch. Md. liv*, 540), and at the March, 1672/3, court Simond Clymer successfully sued William Young for 400 pounds of tobacco for work that he had done in building the church (*Arch. Md. liv*, 556). That the church had a clergyman is to be seen by an order of the Talbot Court, September 16, 1673, for the payment of 1000 pounds of tobacco to Mr. James Clayland for a sermon preached at the funeral of Mr. John Leavens (*Arch.*