

ced the settlement of his colony when, extremely desirous to open a door, by the Chesapeak, for peopling it, (i) he persuaded himself that lord Baltimore had extended his province beyond its true limits, and signified by letters to some of the principal inhabitants of the Eastern Shore that their lands were in Pennsylvania, and that they ought not therefore to pay rents and taxes as belonging to Maryland. The best informed of those planters paid no attention to this notice, which they knew to be erroneous; but others, either deceived, or willing to take advantage of the intimation, determined to pay nothing, hoping, as a certain writer observes, to live under no government. This, with the provocation and embarrassment which it gave to lord Baltimore, laid the foundation of a controversy which continued too long, and with too many circumstances of violence, not to have been very prejudicial to the advancement of both the provinces.

The termination of the second, or northerly, line of Lord Baltimore's grant seems to have been the point immediately in contest. The first attempt to determine this did not promise a result favourable to Mr. Penn: on the contrary it *appeared* by an observation taken at Chester, that the 40th degree would carry the boundaries of Maryland up to the Schuylkill. The ascertainment of lord Baltimore's limits in this way was afterwards evaded by Markham, the kinsman and agent of Mr. Penn, and that proprietary himself, informed of the disadvantageous appearances resulting from the trial just spoken of, came out from England provided with a better method of carrying his point. In 1682 he met Lord Baltimore by appointment in Maryland, and produced a letter from king Charles II. directing the settlement of their mutual claims, and requiring that the northern limits of Maryland should be determined by the admeasurement from its southern boundary of *two degrees*, according to the *usual* computation of *sixty* miles each—Lord Baltimore objected to this that his patent mentioned no specified number of degrees, but went absolutely to the 40th degree of north latitude;—that nothing, therefore remained to ascertain but, *where* his northern line intersected the Delaware, which he proposed to determine by an observation on land, by a sextant of six feet radius belonging to his opponent; and in reference to the king's opinion that he must necessarily begin at the degree 38, he alledged that his charter said no such thing, and that a royal mandate could not take away what had been granted under the great seal. Mr. Penn's argument in opposition to this was, that Watkins's Point was

(i) This and some other facts are derived from the historical sketches of Mr. Chalmers, who certainly shows a leaning to the Maryland side of the contest, but who nevertheless cites authorities for what he advances.