

“ have acquired the praise due to humanity and justice. Nations, with respect to the several communities of the earth, possessing all the rights of men, since they are aggregates of men, are governed by similar rules of action. Upon those principles was founded the right of emigration of old : upon those principles the Phenicians and Greeks and Carthagenians settled Colonies in the wilds of the earth.”

The person to whom allusion has been made as the most active and inveterate enemy of Lord Baltimore's infant Colony was Captain William Cleyborne, who had, in the year 1631, obtained a licence, under the King's sign manual to trade in those parts of America for which no exclusive patent, for that purpose, had before been granted ; and, under that authority had begun to plant a Colony on Kent Island, and laid claim by right of prior settlement to that and other Lands comprehended in Lord Baltimore's Grant. Without adopting all the asperity of language which has generally been used in speaking of this (*g*) man, and of his efforts to defeat the grant by which his own claim had been supplanted, it must be acknowledged that his conduct to Lord Baltimore was hostile in the highest degree, and his schemes and proceedings against that nobleman's interest unfair and insidious, but I do not perceive that the original ground of his opposition was quite so weak as has been represented, and it is certain that the high hand with which the Proprietary and his Government undertook to controul and chastise the pretensions of Cleyborne was not calculated to produce submission or acquiescence in a person of his character. He had held a place in the Government of Virginia, and his claims and complaints were in some degree connected with those of the people of that Colony, who also made violent opposition to the grant of Maryland, as a dismemberment of their ancient Dominion. After a contest of some years continuance, not without bloodshed, Cleyborne, being the weakest, had recourse to other means. He represented his claims and injuries in a petition to the King, who referred the whole matter in dispute to the Commissioners of Colonies, and by them it was on the 4th of April 1638, on hearing of all parties, determined that the Lands in question belonged absolutely to Lord Baltimore ; that no planta-

(*g*) He has been styled “ the bane,” the “ evil genius,” &c. of Maryland. His conduct in exciting the Indians to war against his countrymen cannot be vindicated—but judging from what appears on record, I consider him as a man trifled with by the crown ; for the traffic intended in his licence, being that of furs, &c. with the natives, could not well be carried on without settlements. Being turned over and subjected to Lord Baltimore without any compensation for his disappointment, he had at least all the excuse that can arise from the highest provocation for his subsequent procedures.