

county allotted them, which they joyfully accepted, and settling about the Severn river in 1649, near the site of the present city of Annapolis, called their new home Providence.

After the execution of Charles I, the Virginia Assembly proclaimed his son, Charles II, as lawful King, in defiance of the statute which made such a declaration high treason. So Parliament sent out commissioners with a force to reduce to submission "the plantations within the Chesapeake bay," thus including Maryland, where no opposition to Parliament existed. Under this authority Governor Stone was displaced, and William Fuller, a Puritan of Providence, with a body of commissioners, was put in possession of the government. These repealed the Toleration Act of 1648, and substituted an act visiting with penalties all adherents of "popery and prelacy," as well as Quakers, Baptists and other miscellaneous sects.

Cromwell, disapproving of their doings, wrote to the Virginia commissioners commanding them to leave Maryland undisturbed. Baltimore then ordered Stone to take the government again. As Fuller refused to surrender it, Stone marched against him with the men of St. Mary's, and a battle was fought on the shore of the Severn on March 24, 1655, in which Stone's party were defeated, and he himself wounded. The prisoners taken were condemned to death, and four of them were shot.

The whole matter was referred for final settlement to the Commissioners of Plantations, whose decision was favorable to Baltimore. Bennett and Matthews, the Virginia commissioners, then surrendered Maryland to the Proprietary, who re-established his government with Josias Fendall as Governor.

Fendall had not been long in office, when he entered into a plot to render himself independent of the Proprietary, and indeed, to annul Baltimore's authority altogether; so he was superseded, and Baltimore's brother, Philip Calvert, appointed governor. The Proprietary, in person or by deputy, was the chief executive, assisted by the Council. The Legislature sat in two Houses, the Governor and Council forming the Upper House, and the elected representatives of the freemen to the Lower House. All legislation originated with the Assembly, subject to the Propri-