

CHARTER OF MARYLAND.

CHARLES,* by the grace of GOD, of *England, Scotland, France, and Ireland*, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c. To ALL to whom these presents shall come, GREETING.

II. Whereas our well beloved and right trusty subject, CECILIUS, CALVERT, Baron of BALTIMORE, in our kingdom of *Ireland*, son and heir of GEORGE CALVERT, knight, late baron of BALTIMORE, in our said kingdom of *Ireland*, treading in the steps of his father, being animated with a laudable and pious zeal for extending the *christian religion*, and also the territories of our empire, hath humbly besought leave of us, that he may transport, by his own industry, and expense, a numerous colony of the *English* nation, to a certain region, herein after described, in a country hitherto uncultivated, in the parts of *America*, and partly occupied by savages, having no knowledge of the Divine Being, and that all that region, with some certain privileges, and jurisdictions, appertaining unto the wholesome government, and state of his colony and region aforesaid, may by our royal highness be given, granted, and confirmed unto him, and his heirs.

III. KNOW YE therefore, that WE, encouraging with our royal favour, the pious and noble purpose of the aforesaid barons of BALTIMORE, of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have GIVEN, GRANTED, and CONFIRMED, and by this our present CHARTER, for us, our heirs, and successors, do GIVE, GRANT, and CONFIRM, unto the aforesaid CECILIUS, now baron of BALTIMORE, his heirs, and assigns, all that part of the Peninsula, or *Chersonese*, lying in the parts of *America*, between the ocean on the east, and the bay of *Chesapeake* on the west; divided from the residue thereof by a right line drawn from the promontory, or head-land, called *Watkin's Point*, situate upon the bay aforesaid, near the river *Wighco*, on the west, unto the main ocean on the east; and between that boundary on the south, unto that part of the bay of *Delaware* on the north, which lieth under the fortieth degree of north latitude from the

*Charles the first, of England.