

he was known to be a friend of the King; and while Maryland had no direct interest in the controversy, much partisan feeling was aroused. In January, 1644, one Richard Ingle, commander of a merchant ship, was in St. Mary's, and being a violent partisan of Parliament, and a loose and loud talker of open treason, made himself so obnoxious, that he was arrested, though presently released and suffered to sail away unmolested. In the autumn of the same year, he came back with an armed ship and a force of men, seized St. Mary's and overthrew the government. For two years the Province remained in the hands of Ingle and his men, joined by such of the baser sort as were lured by the prospect of plunder; and they pillaged and destroyed at their pleasure for about two years. No blood, however, seems to have been shed. Governor Calvert, at length, obtained some help from Virginia, and, returning with a force, regained his authority without a blow. On June 9, 1647, this just and humane Governor died.

In 1648, Baltimore sent out as governor William Stone, a Protestant and a friend of the parliamentary party; and at the same time reconstructed the Council, so as to give the Protestants a majority.

Baltimore's instructions to his first colonists, as we have said, forbade any discrimination on account of religious differences, or any disputes on matters of faith, and all were allowed, under the common law of the province, the undisturbed enjoyment of their religion. In 1649, this policy was made written law and placed on the statute-book in the famous "Toleration Act." In this Act, the calling others by reproachful names on account of religious differences were forbidden under penalties, and "the better to preserve love and amity," it is enacted that "no person professing to believe in Jesus Christ shall be in any way molested or discountenanced for, or in respect of his religion, nor in the free exercise thereof." This Act remained the law of the land until the Puritan supremacy in 1652.

The Puritans came into Maryland in this way: In 1643, the Virginia Assembly passed a law expelling all non-conformists from the colony, upon which many came over to Maryland, where they were kindly received by the Proprietary, and wide and fertile lands in Anne Arundel