

Of the first meeting of the Maryland Assembly, in 1635, we have no record, but that of the second, in 1637-8, has been preserved. It consisted of all the freemen of the colony, present either in person or by proxies. This plan proving inconvenient, was soon changed, and two burgesses were elected by every hundred, forming a lower house, while the Governor and Council, appointed by the Proprietary, constituted an upper house. The clause in the charter giving Baltimore the right to propose laws was waived by him, and the initiative in legislation left to the Assembly, he reserving the power of assent or dissent.

The missionaries sent out by the Jesuits with the first colonists were diligent in spreading Christianity among the Indians, who gladly listened to their teachings and embraced the faith; even the Tayac, or "emperor," of Piscataway, who was a sovereign over several tribes, asking to be baptized and married according to the Christian rite; and he afterwards brought his young daughter to be educated at St. Mary's.

The peace of Maryland was disturbed by the civil war in England. Although Baltimore took no part in the war, 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