

THE GREAT SEAL OF MARYLAND.

The Great Seal of Maryland presents a marked contrast to those of the other States of the American Union, in that its device consists of armorial bearings of a strictly heraldic character, being in fact the family arms of the Lords Baltimore, which were placed by the first Proprietary upon the Seal of the Province.

THE FIRST SEAL.

The First Great Seal of Maryland was lost or stolen in 1644, during the rebellion of Richard Ingle. No description of this seal remains.

THE SECOND SEAL.

The Second Great Seal was sent to the Province by Lord Baltimore to replace the lost or stolen seal, and was described by Lord Baltimore as differing but little from the first one. A minute description of the second seal is found in Lord Baltimore's letter of commission to Governor Stone, August 12, 1648. On the obverse of this seal was the equestrian figure of the Lord Proprietary, symbolizing his personal authority. He was represented arrayed in complete armor, and bearing a drawn sword in his hand. The caparisons of his horse were adorned with the family coat-of-arms. On the ground below were represented some flowers and grass growing. The entire figure was admirably designed and full of life. On the circle surrounding this side of the seal was this inscription: *Cæcilius Absolutus Dominus Terræ Mariæ et Avaloniæ Baro de' Baltemore*. On the reverse was Lord Baltimore's hereditary coat-of-arms. The first and fourth quarters represented the arms of the Calvert family, described in heraldic language as a paly of six pieces, or and sable, a bend counter-changed. The second and third quarters showed the arms of the Crossland family, which Cæcilius inherited from his grandmother, Alicia, daughter of John Crossland, Esquire, of Crossland, Yorkshire, and wife of Leonard Calvert, the father of George, first Lord Baltimore.

The coat is quarterly, argent and gules, a cross bottony counter changed. Above the shield was placed an earl's coronet; above that a helmet set full-faced; and over that the Calvert crest, two pennons, the dexter or the other sable, staves gules, issuing from a ducal coronet. The supporters upon this seal were a plowman and a fisherman, designated respectively by a spade and a fish held in the hand. The motto was that adopted by the Calvert family, *Fatti maschii parole femine*. Two interpretations exist of this motto—