

declared that the beheading of the King was an indefensible act of treason, under penalty of death, the number of Puritans in Maryland increased to more than one thousand.

Apparently the Puritans were neither satisfied with the tolerant society into which they fled, nor content to live peacefully with those of different theological views. Reports filtered to England that the Puritans were not being fairly treated by the Maryland government. They persuaded the Crown to send over Parliamentary commissioners. Governor Stone of Maryland immediately acknowledged the new Commonwealth of England, but refused to issue warrants and writs in the name of the "Keepers of the Liberty of England" instead of under Lord Baltimore. On this basis, Stone was removed from office and a provisional government established.

A unanimously Protestant assembly was installed and in 1654, the "Act Concerning Religion" was repealed and "popery" outlawed. Cromwell himself was by no means satisfied when he heard of these things. He ruled that Cecil Calvert's charter was valid and intact, and ordered Stone to resume leadership of the colony. Stone evidently felt that he had to retake the reigns of government by force, and the Puritans were not averse to an open conflict. The battle of the Severn was fought in March of 1655, and Stone was soundly defeated. Cromwell, too busy with affairs at home to recognize the victors' insubordination, merely ordered them to cease all persecution of Catholics and fully restore Baltimore's province to him.⁴⁷

⁴⁷ See RILEY, *supra* note 7 at 51-55, and BROWNE, *supra* note 20 at 147-55.

Once again under the second Lord Baltimore, policies of toleration were reestablished. At once Cecil Calvert granted immunity to all offenders in the Puritan rebellion, and permitted them to either keep their lands or leave the colony, whichever course they wished to follow. Even the right to hold office was not denied. Calvert displayed a characteristic magnanimity as a reaction to the Puritan uprising, "the basest act of ingratitude and intolerance in the annals of American history."⁴⁸

**A PEACEFUL REIGN
1659-1688**

"History has little to record of the daily life of the colonists in times of peace and quiet."⁴⁹ When Lord Baltimore was able to administer the affairs of Maryland without hindrance, Protestants and Catholics lived together in admirable harmony, unique among the several colonies. An indentured Maryland servant, writing home in London in 1666, had this to say about his adopted colony:

"Here the Roman Catholic and the Protestant Episcopal, whom the world would persuade, have proclaimed open wars irrevocably against each other, contrarywise concur in an unanimous parallel of friendship and inseparable love unto one another; all inquisition, martyrdom and banishments are not so much as named but unexpressibly abhorred by each other And I really believe this land or government of Maryland may boast that she enjoys as much quietness from the disturbance of rebellious opinions as most states or

⁴⁸ IYRS, *supra* note 7 at 234. See generally *id.* at 233-39.

⁴⁹ *Id.* at 240.