

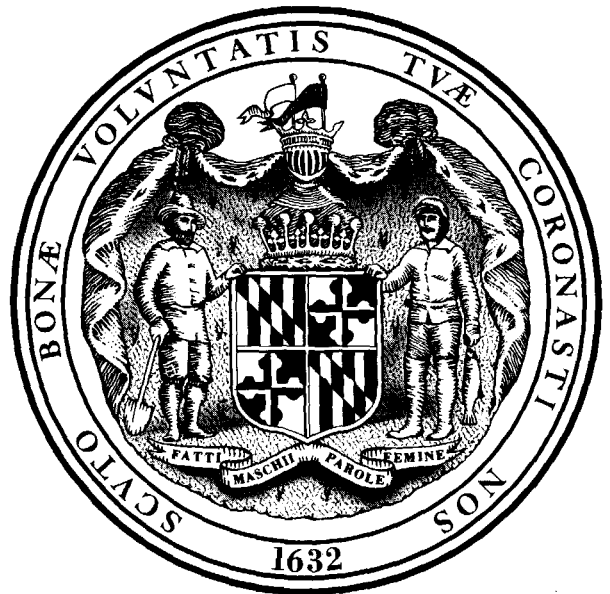
## MARYLAND'S OFFICIAL STATE SYMBOLS

### GREAT SEAL OF MARYLAND

The Great Seal of Maryland is used by the Governor and the Secretary of State to authenticate the Acts of the Legislature and for other official purposes. The first Great Seal was brought over during the early days of the Colony. It remained in use, although slightly altered, until the Revolution. The State of Maryland adopted a new seal similar in form and spirit to those of the other States. After the passage of a hundred years, Maryland re-adopted its old seal (Joint Resolution No. 5, Legislative Session of 1876). Only the Reverse of this seal has ever been cut. The Obverse is, however, still considered as part of the seal and is used, among other things for decorating public buildings.

The Reverse consists of an escutcheon or shield bearing the Calvert and Crossland arms quartered. Above is an earl's coronet and a full-faced helmet. The escutcheon is supported on one side by a farmer and on the other by a fisherman, symbolizing Lord Baltimore's two estates of Maryland and Avalon. The Calvert motto on the scroll is "Fatti maschii parole femine" usually translated "manly deeds, womanly words." The Latin legend on the border is translated "with favor wilt thou compass us as with a shield," the last verse of Psalms 5 as it appears in the Vulgate. The date, 1632, refers to the year the charter was granted to Lord Baltimore.

The Obverse of the Seal shows Lord Baltimore as a Knight in full armor mounted on a charger. The inscription translated is "Cecilius, Absolute Lord of Maryland and Avalon, Baron of Baltimore." Avalon was the name of Lord Baltimore's grant in Newfoundland (Chapter 79, Act of 1969; Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, sec. 74A).



REVERSE



OBVERSE