

round the grant, that it has produced in your committee no little surprise to learn from the early history of the province, the legal perplexities in which the proprietary was involved, concerning them. They were indelible signs of nature, skirted along the whole grant, and were doubtless intended to put out of the reach of all controversy the intention of the grantor in carving out of his immense domain a territory for Lord Baltimore. The third section declares that it was intended to contain "all that part of the Peninsula, or Chersonese, lying in the parts of America, between the ocean on the east, and the bay of Chesapeake on the west, divided from the residue thereof by a right line drawn from the promontory or head land called Watkins' Point situate upon the bay aforesaid, near the river Wighco on the west, unto the main ocean on the east; and between that boundary on the south, unto that part of the bay of Delaware on the north, which lieth under the fortieth degree of north latitude from the equinoctial, where New England is terminated; and all the tract of that land within the metes under written, (that is to say,) passing from the said bay, called Delaware bay, in a right line by the degree aforesaid, unto the true meridian of the first fountain of the river of Potomac, thence verging towards the south, unto the further bank of the said river, and following the same on the west and south unto a certain place called Cinquack, situate near the mouth of said river, where it disembogues into the aforesaid bay of Chesapeake, and thence by the shortest line unto the aforesaid promontory or place called Watkins' Point." Looking at this horoscope of Baltimore's charter, in search of its southern and western limits, we are cautiously told to begin on that part of the bay of Delaware on the north, which lieth under the fortieth degree of north latitude from the equinoctial, and are directed to pass from the said part of said bay, which lieth under the said degree, and by the said degree unto the true meridian of the first fountain of the river Potomac; although it is probable but little was known of the upper fountains or tributaries of the Potomac, to the king of Great Britain, by actual observation and inspection, made by his agents, yet no doubt it was well ascertained or believed, that it flowed from the west, and its courses and first fountain with the greatest relative extent to the west, were intended to be sought for, as your committee believe, by actual survey due west along the degree aforesaid, until a true meridian could be got to strike the first fountain of the river Potomac, having the greatest extent to the west, without regard to any branch or tributary of that river. For notwithstanding the confines of the