

was made, pointedly illustrates the jealousy of the Legislature of that day, in the provision inserted, that nothing in it should be construed to give "the inhabitants of said town a right to elect delegates to the Assembly, as representatives from the town." In 1750, High street, from Ploughman to French, with eighteen acres of ground, was added to the town. A tobacco inspection house was erected on the west side of Charles street, and a public wharf was commenced at the south end of Calvert street, which for a long time was called, the "County Wharf."

In 1751, an unsuccessful attempt was made to erect a Market House and Town Hall, by subscription. The opposing interests of the settlers on the opposite sides of the Falls, and disputes as to location, most probably defeated the plan. In 1752, there were in the town about twenty-five houses, four of which were of brick. One of these, built by Wm. Payne, and occupied by him as a tavern, is still standing, on the north-west corner of Calvert and Mercer streets. The amount of shipping owned in the town at this period, was one brig and one sloop; but there were probably several vessels owned in the neighborhood. In the same year, thirty-two acres of Cole's Harbor, lying on the south, west, and north of the first settlement, were added to the town.

After the defeat of Braddock, in 1755, parties of Indians passed within forts Cumberland and Frederick, and ravaged the country within ninety miles of the town. Great alarm prevailed, so that the inhabitants of the county fled to Baltimore for safety, and preparations were made to put the women and children on board of boats and vessels in the harbor. The effect of the war unquestionably was to promote the growth of the town; since many, who would have been disposed to take up lands in the interior, were deterred by the danger, and gave the advantage of their capital and enterprise to the already thriving mart.

In 1756, Mr. Andrew Steiger took the lot on the north-east corner of Gay and Baltimore streets. On the gable of the house at present standing there are fixed the figures "1741;" but this date is several years before the laying out of that part of the town, and fifteen years before it was deeded to Steiger. During the same year, many of the "neutral French," deprived of their property in Nova Scotia by the British, and driven destitute from their homes, took refuge in Baltimore, and were kindly received. By the exercise of great industry and frugality, they obtained the means of purchasing much of the ground on S. Charles street, where they at first erected rude cabins or huts. As they continued to prosper, these gave place to substantial buildings of wood or brick, erected mostly with their own hands. This part of the town was long after known by the name of "French Town."

In 1765, many of the water lots on the Point had been taken; and as it was favorably situated for building and fitting out vessels, it became a rival of the town. In fact, the first settlers were at a loss to determine in which part to buy; and, finally, such as could command the means took lots both in the town and on the Point. In the same year, thirty-five acres of the tract called Lunn's Lot, were added to the town, including the streets afterwards called Conway and Barre, in honor of the opponents of the stamp act, in the British parliament. The next year, a law was passed, appointing commissioners to have the marsh between Frederick street and the Falls, filled up and added to the town. Up to this time, the county courts had been held at Joppa, on the Gunpowder river; but such had been the increase of Baltimore, and so great was the inconvenience to which the inhabitants were subjected, in attending court there, that in 1768 a law was passed, authorizing the erection of a Court House and Prison on Calvert street, near Jones's Falls; which was carried into effect. The former, built of brick and two stories high, occupied the