

special jurisdictions like Durham. Second, Lord Baltimore succeeded in changing the terms of his tenure from one that entailed heavy military commitments to one that carried only a nominal token of dependence. In this case it was two Indian arrows a year to be delivered at Windsor Castle and one fifth of any precious metal mined. With these changes Lord Baltimore gained the protection of fully defined powers with minimal checks on proprietary authority and virtually no compensatory payments.

The executive, judicial, and military powers granted in Lord Baltimore's charter were perhaps necessary if a private individual were to develop, defend, and govern a colony thousands of miles across the seas from England. The autonomy granted also provided against English interference in the Catholic refuge Lord Baltimore was planning for his colony, although such protection was probably not in his mind when he wrote the Avalon prototype. The delegation of sovereignty was extraordinary, but it is not incomprehensible to the twentieth-century mind.

Less understandable to us are the clauses that permitted Lord Baltimore to create titles of honor and subgrant land with rights to erect manors. Nevertheless, these powers were central elements in his vision of the proposed colony. He hoped thereby to recruit well-born Englishmen—especially younger sons, usually barred from inheritance of most of the family wealth—who would share the burdens of funding a new settlement and provide necessary leadership in return for land, power, honor, and the opportunity to build a fortune. He expected that the grant of manorial rights would not only attract the interest of such men but also provide a framework for local government and community