The Gentlemen Adventurers

The seventeen gentlemen of "good birth and qualitie" who actually went to settle are listed in *A Relation of Maryland,* a pamphlet published in London in 1635. They were Leonard Calvert, Esq. (the Governor) and Mr. George Calvert, Lord Baltimore's younger brothers; Jerome Hawley, Esq., and Thomas Cornwallis, Esq., named commissioners with Leonard Calvert for the voyage; Mr. Richard Gerard, son of Sir Thomas Gerard, baronet; Messrs. Edward and Frederick Wintour, sons of Lady Anne Wintour; Mr. John Saunders; Mr. Thomas Green; Mr. Henry Wiseman, son of Sir Thomas Wiseman; Mr. John Medcalf; Mr. Nicholas Ferfax; Mr. John Baxter; Mr. Edward Cranfield; Mr. Thomas Dorrell; Captain John Hill; and Mr. William Saire. Lord Baltimore himself had expected to lead the expedition, but challenges to his charter forced him to remain in England.

Nothing is known about the background of the last five men listed in the 1635 *Relation,* except that Dorrell was Catholic.[11] Most is known about the first nine, six of whom were the heaviest investors. Of these nine, all were born gentlemen. All, except Jerome Hawley, were younger sons, and all, except possibly John Saunders, were Roman Catholic. Indeed none of the gentlemen investors who actually went to Maryland appear to have been Protestant. Except for Hawley, they were men who could not inherit any major share of the family fortune, which in England went to the oldest son. Younger sons received education but their portions of the family estate were small and they were expected to make their own way. Furthermore, Catholic younger sons faced