

board, more distant from the England its passengers knew than a space ship to the moon would seem today. It was to be a world full of terrors but also of hope as it carried the colonists to their new home.

Lord Baltimore's Dream

Lord Baltimore must have felt relief and hope but also disappointment as his ships took off without him. His instructions for the voyage and first settlement show a mixture of anxiety and optimism. The Commissioners were to "be very carefull to preserve unity and peace amongst all the passengers." All "Acts of Roman Catholique Religion" were to be done "as privately as may be" and Catholics were "to be silent upon all occasions of discourse concerning matters of Religion. . . . And this is to be observed at Land as well as Sea." At the same time the leaders were to try to discover what sailors or passengers might know "concerning the private plotts of his Lo^{pps} adversaries in England, who endeavored to overthrow his voyage" and report back to him as soon as possible. The instructions also anticipated sabotage from Virginia once the ships arrived, and he gave a detailed plan for avoiding trouble, especially with William Claibourne. His optimism was more evident when he required construction for himself of a house and chapel and establishment of a town nearby. He ordered the charter to be read aloud to all the settlers that they might know their rights as well as his powers. And he announced his intention to be there shortly to assist them "that they may reape the fruites of their charges and labors."⁵²