

Patapsco river, with said river to the head thereof, and from thence, bounding on the *south* side of the main falls, being the Southernmost great branch of the said river, and running as the said branch runs to the first main fork of the said falls, and then bounding on the *South Side* of the said *Southernmost Fork*, Till a South course will intercept the Head of *Snowden's River*, and so down the said *Snowden's River*, 'till it meet with the now Extent of Anne-Arundel County."

The next change in the western limits of Baltimore County was due to the erection of Frederick County in 1748. According to the terms of this act<sup>14</sup> Frederick County was to embrace all of the territory to the west of Baltimore, Anne Arundel, and Prince George's counties. Settlers had gradually worked their way westward along the Patapsco and Potomac rivers and northward along the Monocacy into the fertile Frederick valley. The intermediate area of the more mountainous Parr's Ridge was settled more slowly. The actual position of the line between Frederick and Baltimore counties was not determined until a few years later, when the General Assembly passed an act<sup>15</sup> defining the boundaries as follows:

"Beginning at a spring called Parr's spring, and running from thence N 35° E to a bounded white oak standing on the west side of a waggon road called John Digges's road, about a mile above the place called the Burnthouse Woods; and running thence up the said road to a bounded white oak, standing on the east side thereof, at the head of a draught of Sam's creek; thence N. 55° E. to a Spanish oak standing on a ridge near William Robert's, and opposite to the head of a branch called the Beaver-Dam; and running thence N. 20° E. to the temporary line between the provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania, being near the head of a draught called Conewago, at a rocky hill called Rattle Snake Hill."

A few of these points may be recognized at present but some of them are in doubt. Early maps like that of Alexander in 1840 and the less perfect B. & O. R. R. survey maps of an earlier date show the boundary to pass along the divide between the Monocacy and Patapsco to Westminster, and thence northeasterly to the limits of the State. This line remained in force from 1750 until 1836, when the boundaries of Carroll County were defined. A comparison of the terms of chapter 13 of the laws of 1750 and chapter 22 of the laws of 1838 are of interest in that the latter calls for a line running N 17° E which would be parallel to a

<sup>14</sup> Acts of 1748, Chapter 15.

<sup>15</sup> Acts of 1750, Chapter 13.