

Anne Arundel .....	(1650)	Acts of Assembly, 1650, Ch. 8.
Providence .....	(1654)	" " 1654, " 17.
Patuxent .....	(1654)	" " 1654, " 17.
Potomac .....	(1654)	" " 1654, " 17.
Prince George's.....	(1695)	" " 1695, " 13.
Queen Anne's.....	(1706)	" " 1706, " 3.
Worcester .....	(1742)	" " 1742, " 14.
Frederick .....	(1748)	" " 1748, " 15.
Caroline .....	(1773)	" " (Nov. sess.), 1773, Ch. 6.
Harford .....	(1773)	" " " 1773, " 10.
Allegany .....	(1789)	" " " 1789, " 29.
Carroll .....	(1836)	" " " 1836, " 19.
Garrett .....	(1872)	" " " 1872, " 212.

Four counties have been erected by constitutional conventions, two of them being made by the constitutional convention of 1776, one by the second constitutional convention, 1850, and one by the fourth, 1867. The counties thus erected are as follows:

Washington .....	(1776)	Howard .....	(1850)
Montgomery .....	(1776)	Wicomico .....	(1867)

Washington and Montgomery were erected prior to the completion of the first constitution out of previously recognized "districts" of Frederick County. Howard and Wicomico were erected by the adoption of sections in the respective constitutions.

The records regarding the erection of three of the counties are entirely lacking or so incomplete that nothing can be told as to the way they were erected, but from the dates it is probable that the form pursued was that of an order of the Governor in Council. The evidence of their existence is first shown in each instance by the record of the issuance of writs to the sheriffs of the several counties, the names of the new counties appearing for the first time in the lists. Baltimore, Talbot, and Dorchester counties are the three with incomplete records. One may gain some conception of the limits originally decreed by subsequent incidents, but in no one of the cases are the bounds specified by the original Act known.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>The first evidence of the existence of these counties is in writs issued to the sheriff on the following dates:

Baltimore, Jan. 12, 1659/60, Md. Arch., 1: 381.
Talbot, Feb. 18, 1661/62, Md. Arch., 1: 425.
Dorchester, Feb. 16, 1668/69, Md. Arch., 3: 448.