

should become Cecil County. On the 19th of the month a second proclamation was issued reciting the fact that upon further consideration it was thought best

“that so much of the Eastern side as was formerly added to Kent County doe still remaine and belong to the said county as afore.”

This applies to the territory along the Bay shore chiefly south of Swan Point in the vicinity of Chester River, which had become settled ten or fifteen years earlier. There are no records to show just where the dividing line between Kent and Cecil counties was put at this time but the map of Augustine Herrman, supposed to have been finished in 1670 and copyrighted January 21, 1674-5, carries the name Cecil to a point near Church Hill. It would thus appear that the original intention had been to establish the lines given in the first proclamation. The settlements represented here are for the most part clustered about Swan Point and north on the Sassafras River, suggesting that the temporary line passed indefinitely northwesterly from the neighborhood of Chestertown to the mouth of the Sassafras. No records have been found indicating when the transfer referred to in the second proclamation had been made to Kent County. By 1706 the settlements had increased on the Eastern Shore and a general Act was passed April 19, 1706,

“dividing and regulating several counties on the eastern shore” (1706 Ch. 3).

According to this Act after the first of May, 1707, the boundaries of Kent County were to

“begin at the south point of Eastern neck, and from thence run up Chesapeake bay to Sassafras river, and up said river to the south end of long Horse bridge lying over the head of the said river, and from thence with a line drawn east and by south, to the exterior bounds of this province, and with the exterior bounds of this province until it intersect the line of Queen Anne's County, and with the said county down Chester river to Eastern neck, where it first begun,”

Although this boundary was defined prior to the settlement of the Delaware-Maryland boundary line, it very closely describes the boundaries of the present Kent County. At the time it was enacted the Proprietor and people of Maryland were actively resisting the claims of William