Early Catonsville and the Caton Family

CASTLE THUNDER, Home of Richard Caton.

At northwest corner of Frederick Road and Beaumont Avenue.

Early Catonsville and the Caton Family

BY

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FOREWORD

BY

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It is not easy for anyone to be an antiquary who has not yet grown old enough to appreciate from experience and observation the great fact of the continuity of history. Such a one links to the scenes and persons about him a past whose scenes and persons he envisages as no less real and commonplace; and he finds in the history of his own community a peculiar interest. A community old enough and wise enough to value a knowledge of its own past is the better able to understand its present and divine its future.

All this Dr. Keidel perfectly understood when he began more than a quarter of a century ago, a series of newspaper articles on the colonial history of the "Village of Catonsville." Too many local histories are commercial ventures hastily compiled to afford some sort of justification for a volume of biographies and portraits of citizens vain enough to pay to be included. The story of the beginning of Catonsville is no such volume. It is the work of a competent scholar, who applied to its preparation the same exacting rules that he prescribed for his students at the Johns Hopkins.

It is unfortunate that circumstances prevented the author from carrying the series to the end of the colonial period; but what we have is an adequate account of the region and its early settlement and is complete and valuable in itself. Those early settlers, pushing up from tidewater to seek vacant and fertile land found that region good, and they and their descendants domesticated it into a countryside of unusual loveliness. It is a wholesome provincialism that leads their present-day successors, conscious of the ominous nearness of a great industrial city of which the pioneers never dreamed, to cherish it as an entity and to treasure its traditions. In this spirit the original articles are here presented in a permanent form.

I. *Introduction*

As a community becomes older there usually arrives a time when it begins to take an interest in its past history, and to wonder how things have come to be as they are.

But when this mental stage has been reached it is oftentimes too late to trust to the memories of the living for what happened in the olden time. There may be many people who can remember events that occurred fifty years ago, a few who can go back seventy-five years, none a hundred years. Most people know even their own family history for only three or four generations. What happened before that is probably merely a vague tradition, itself oftentimes erroneous.

And so it is with the village of Catonsville! There are many persons among the older inhabitants who remember distinctly events which occurred here in the period of the Civil War, a few perhaps who recollect occurrences in the thirties and forties; but who is there to tell us of conditions in Catonsville during the Revolutionary War, or the Colonial period?

Something, it is true, is known of Richard Caton, from whom our village derives its name; it is a matter of common report that the Rolling Road is very old, and that its name is derived from the custom of rolling hogsheads of tobacco down to Elkridge Landing; that the Johnnycake Road was the original route to Frederick; that the settlement around the old Catholic church goes back to time immemorial. But that is about all!

It has therefore seemed to the writer of the present series of articles to be a matter of some interest to inquire further into the local history of Catonsville and its vicinity, and to put on record such facts as it has been possible to glean from the scattered records of the past during some years of intermittent inquiry. It is intended to pay attention especially to the Colonial period which preceded the Revolutionary War, a period which goes back wholly before the memory of those now living.

The subjects for inquiry which readily suggest themselves

are many and varied. A few of them may be enumerated here as a stimulus to the interest of the reader, and as a foretaste of the proposed scope of the present series of articles.

What has been the geological history of Catonsville? Can anything be found out about the Indians who once roamed the forests hereabouts? When did the first white men visit this part of Maryland? Who were the first settlers, and where did they live? Were they English, German, French, Irish or Scotch?

Catonsville is the only place of that name known to Lippincott's Gazetteer of the World, or to the United States Postal Guide. Let us endeavor to discover what we may concerning its early history from the records at Annapolis, from the names on the oldest tombstones, from whatever source we may.*

II. Geological History

Maryland is divided in its geological structure into three zones running parallel to the Atlantic Ocean: the mountainous region in the western portion of the state, the Piedmont district to the southeast of the mountains, and the marine plain between the latter and the ocean. In descending from the mountains to the seashore the chief features of the landscape are extensive ridges, which gradually lessen in height if not in extent until the sea-level is at length reached.

To the casual observer it would seem that the region around Catonsville belonged to the Piedmont district by reason of its generally rolling character and its considerable elevation; but from the official publications of the state geologists (see Geological Survey of Maryland), issued in recent years, we learn that such is not the case. It is the Patapsco River on the south and west, and Gwynn's Falls on the east and northeast, that with deeply eroded valleys contribute largely to produce this impression.

The whole Catonsville region in point of fact belongs to the two highest levels of the marine plain, and at one time was

* Mr. William B. Marye, Corresponding Secretary of the Maryland Historical Society, has kindly contributed notes for the republication of these articles which appeared 32 years ago.

entirely submerged beneath the waters of the Atlantic Ocean. The marine plain of Maryland consists of a half-dozen levels which were formed under water during successive submergences from the debris washed down from the mountains. These layers were later worn down tremendously by the action of the frosts and the rains, so that at present the land about Catonsville consists of the scant remains of these old marine bottoms which at some points have been eroded to a depth of more than one hundred feet. The uppermost and oldest of these levels is known to geologists as the Lafayette formation, and it includes all the highest land about Catonsville, as well as the somewhat less elevated central portion of Southern Maryland and a few outlying hills elsewhere in the state.

Thus the high land on both sides of the Old Frederick Road between Ingleside Avenue and the Rolling Road belongs to the Lafayette formation, while the top of the hill on the Hand place northeast of the Johnny Cake Road forms an outlier (or island as it were). This level is characterized by an almost total absence of springs and streams and a generally flat character combined with a light and parsimonious soil.

The greater portion of Catonsville, however, belongs to the next lower level, which is known to geologists as the Sunderland formation. This section is characterized by numerous small streams flowing down between hills of various heights, but all of them well rounded off by the action of time. The streams usually begin in a swamp, where the superposed layers of gravel and sand have been washed away, and where the well-nigh impervious beds of clay crop out on the surface. This level is more fertile on the whole than the former section, and in a natural state is covered with a forest of large trees.

Finally, where the larger streams have cut deep ravines the third level of the marine plain has probably been reached here and there, and occasionally even the underlying bedrock. This is especially true near the Patapsco River and Gwynn's Falls, where are naturally located the largest stone quarries of the region under consideration. Thus the chief source of supply for rock material near Catonsville is to be found at Ilchester, where there is a very deep ravine opening out into the valley of the Patapsco.

The large beds of gravel, sand and clay which occur everywhere in the neighborhood are unmistakable indication of deposit under water, while the numerous ice-borne boulders scattered in many places over the surface have been left behind in the process of secondary erosion after having originally been carried down from the higher levels by the glaciers of long years ago. A noteworthy gravel bed full of large rounded pebbles may be seen in the railroad cut on Bloomsbury Avenue, while further down on Wilkens Avenue there are notable sandpits. Several huge surface rocks may still be found in Carmine's Meadow, and formerly another large rock lay by the side of Harlem Lane near Ingleside Avenue. The latter has in recent years been buried on the spot where it lay, as its enormous weight rendered removal impracticable.

In the neighborhood of Edmondson Avenue and Winters Lane there occur a number of hollows normally filled with rainwater which collects in their centres. Dr. George B. Shattuck, formerly a geologist on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins University, is authority for the statement that these hollows are probably due to large bubbles which have burst and caused the earth above them to settle down into a circular depression. Persons who pass up Ingleside Avenue may observe a small hollow of this sort on the place of Mr. Elias Livezey a short distance north of the village.

III. Indian History

The earliest known inhabitants of what is now the United States were probably the Mound Builders, who have left such numerous and striking architectural memorials in the Mississippi Valley. There seems to be no indication, however, of their having lived in the country east of the Allegany Mountains, but it is likely that at times some of their number may have crossed the hill country and traveled as far as the Patapsco Valley. The time when these people flourished is a matter of much speculation, but it was quite possibly thousands of years ago.[1]

[1] This theory is not now held by reputable ethnologists. The Mound Builders were Indians. W. B. M.

Certain it is, on the other hand, that the Red Indian once dwelt in this land of ours, and indeed he has left us many unmistakable evidences of his sojourn here. Almost all the large rivers of Maryland bear Indian names, as does for instance the Patapsco near Catonsville.

And right here it may be remarked that such is now the generally recognized spelling of a name which was meant to reproduce for English ears the sound of the original Indian name. But in some of the earliest records at Annapolis we also find the spellings: Potapscoo in 1699 (Land Office, Lib. D. D., fol. 30), Potapscoe in 1701 (Lib. C. D., fol. 271) and Pattapscoo in 1706 (Lib. D. D., fol. 430).

The Indians of Maryland lived for the most part along the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, or those of the larger estuaries. They were less warlike than their more northern neighbors, and shortly before the coming of the white men they had suffered severely from the incursions of the latter. On the banks of the rivers emptying into the upper portion of the Bay lived the Susquehannocks,[2] while lower down on the Eastern Shore were the Delawares.[3]

In 1652 some of the settlers held a meeting with the Susquehannocks under the large poplar tree on what is now the campus of St. John's College in Annapolis. At this time a treaty was made with the Indians concerning a cession of land on the Western side of Chesapeake Bay. This treaty may be considered roughly to have included the region about Catonsville.

Again in 1684 in an interview with William Penn, Col. Talbot of Maryland in speaking of the same tribe of Indians stated: " That that part of their country that lyes in Maryland, between the 40th degree and the rivers of Patapsco, Elke and Saxafras, was never hunted on in their time by the Delaware Indians nor any others but the Susquehannocks Indians only." (See C. C. Hall, *Narratives of Early Maryland, 1633-1684*, p. 440.) From this it appears that the Susquehannocks resented as an invasion of their property rights the hunting by the Delawares or others in the Valley of the Patapsco.

[2] The Susquehannocks lived on the Susquehanna River, about 40 miles above its mouth. W. B. M.

[3] The Indians of the Eastern Shore were not Delawares. W. B. M.

It does not seem likely that any great number of Indians ever lived on the hills about Catonsville, which was rather a hunting ground for them or a means of transit from the mountains to the seashore. The occurrence of arrowheads in the immediate vicinity of the village, however, points to at least a slight occupancy of the wooded hills to the north and east of the Patapsco.

About ten years ago the writer himself found on one day some four or five arrowheads close together on the top of the prominent hill just west of Ingleside Avenue about three-quarters of a mile north of the village. This hill on the place of Miss Margaret Lynch is surrounded on three sides by swampy land, which fact probably caused its selection by some Indian as the location of his wigwam for purposes of ready defense. The writer also found an arrowhead in 1910 near Harlem Lane.

The National Museum in Washington contains a collection of arrowheads from Baltimore County, and one of the custodians recently stated that they were made of either rhyolite or flint, both of them rocks found along the Potomac and Patapsco rivers. It seems not unlikely that the Indians of this neighborhood left behind them thousands upon thousands of such arrowheads, which in course of time became buried in the soil through the action of the elements. From time to time a few of them come to the surface, where they are eagerly gathered up by the curious.

It is therefore not difficult to imagine that the Indians once hunted in our own woods the bear, the deer, and the wild turkey, while much smaller game probably also fell a prey to their skill as hunters and trappers. Centuries ago the range of many wild animals was much greater than it is at present; and hence many species must have existed here which are now wholly extinct in Maryland.

We may also easily think of the Indians as living in part off of the black walnuts, wild strawberries and other natural products of the soil, while they probably also cultivated small patches of " Indian corn " and tobacco here and there. And do we not still have our " Indian summer " to remind us of the former dwellers in our land?

Such Indians as may have lived here must have disappeared

very early before the ever-encroaching white men, while leaving behind them probably a few white or colored half-breeds. For in the early days there must have been here, as elsewhere in America, a few squaw men among the first settlers. Some of the residents of Catonsville will doubtless remember The Partridge, who was said to be an Indian half-breed woman from the White Grounds. There are also some families that claim a distant descent from Pocahontas of early Virginia fame.

IV. Indian Trails

As is well known, the Indians originally had no means of traveling except in canoes or on foot. As there is no body or stream of water near Catonsville of sufficient size to bear a canoe (unless possibly it be a few reaches in the Patapsco River), it must have been the latter mode that was here employed. While oftentimes, no doubt, the Indians wandered through the trackless woods, at others they followed beaten paths worn smooth by the passing feet of many moccasined generations.

It would be interesting to know just where these Indian trails were located, what points they connected, and for what purposes they were used. Probably many a path through the woods which we follow when out hunting was originally formed by the Indians, but who is there that can now definitely determine such a fact? For the Indians themselves do not seem to have left us any maps or other records which bear upon this point, although they were of course perfectly familiar with the trails themselves.

We would seem, then, to have only two methods left us by which to determine the location of the old Indian trails. One of them is to consider the geographical characteristics of the country, its rivers and streams, its hills and valleys; and then to imagine where the Indian would most likely wish to go. The other is to note the movements of the earliest settlers, and to take into account the fact that they at first probably made use of existing Indian trails before they made roads of their own.

Now the Indian probably traveled over the country wherever

the going was easiest, and as he knew nothing of surveyor's instruments he had no idea of going in a straight line from one point to another. Instead he followed most probably the course of some stream, or went along the top of some ridge, or passed through the woods where there were the fewest rocks and the thinnest bushes.

The Indian who lived on the shores of the Bay and its estuaries used his dugout canoe as a rule to take him where he wished to go, but he who traveled by land must find a convenient ford to cross the larger rivers. As the Patapsco was at that early period navigable as far up as Elkridge Landing, it was near there that the lowest ford was probably located. And indeed even in recent years carriages were accustomed to drive through the Patapsco just below the viaduct at the Relay House.

Hence the Indian from the lower counties, for instance, no doubt traveled up the south bank of the river until he reached the ford at the head of navigation near the Landing, where the river issues from the deep gorge of its upper course. Here he forded the stream at the point marked " falls " on the old maps (the water being much greater in volume then than it is now), and proceeded up the valley of a small tributary coming down from the North. This easy grade he followed to the high ground, across which he traveled almost on a dead level to the Northwest.

This winding course will doubtless be recognized by the reader as that of the Rolling Road, which near the Relay House is called Catonsville Avenue, and which is some eight or ten miles in length. What the Indian name of this trail may have been is not known, but from the earliest land records it seems evident that it was traversed by white men long before the days of the tobacco rolling which has earned for it the name now current.

When, on the other hand, an Indian from the Eastern Shore wished to journey towards the mountains he had no doubt the choice of several routes. A friendly canoe might take him up the Patapsco to Elkridge Landing, whence he could follow the Rolling Road trail as outlined above. But probably a more direct route for him to follow would be to land somewhere near the mouth of Gwynn's Falls, which he would then ascend by a

trail to the higher ground near Carroll, and then traverse over this towards the Northwest until he struck into the Rolling Road trail at the White Grounds. This old trail is now the Old Frederick Road, continued as the Journey, or Johnny Cake Road for many miles.

Many of the oldest settlers evidently followed this route up from tide water before the end of the seventeenth century; and indeed one of them had early settled at Hollofield's, where the trail to the West crossed the Patapsco on the way to the district about what is now Frederick.

It seems not unlikely that another trail branched off from the one just mentioned somewhere north of the village, and ran toward the West into the valley of the Patapsco at Ellicott City, as at that point ready access might be had to the high ground of Howard County. Perhaps this trail followed the direction of the Old Frederick Road to the Devil's Elbow, or else down the valley now occupied by the electric car line.

The original Indian trails had no bridges over the streams at the time when the first settlers arrived, and thus fording was always necessary.[4] They were likewise so narrow and rough that vehicles could not be used, and so the white men were obliged to travel on foot or on horseback. Indeed we know that even to a comparatively late date goods were transported along the road from Baltimore to Frederick on packhorses in place of the huge wagons which later became so famous on this route.

We have unfortunately no map of Baltimore County showing the old Indian trails first used by the white men, but on a map of Maryland and Delaware published in 1795 there is indicated a single continuous road from Baltimore to Frederick which is no doubt the successor of the trail mentioned above. Elkridge Landing is the only town indicated to the west of Baltimore, but the Rolling Road does not appear on this map.

[4] Not always. They occasionally built primitive bridges over the more sluggish streams. W. B. M.

V. *Explorations*

It will be unnecessary to consider here the voyages of Columbus and the early explorers, for the reason that their efforts were directed to other portions of the New World. Suffice it to say that the region of the Chesapeake Bay remained unknown to Europeans until towards the close of the sixteenth century.

In 1584 under the auspices of Sir Walter Raleigh, who was acting under letters patent granted to him by Queen Elizabeth of England, an expedition was fitted out which succeeded in exploring a large part of the Atlantic coast northward from Florida. Upon reporting the results of their voyage to the Queen, she was so well pleased that she called the newly discovered country Virginia.

Although the boundaries of this new land were at first extremely indefinite, we find it described in 1606 as follows:

"Virginia is a country in America betweene the degrees of 34. and 45. of the North lattitude. The bounds thereof on the East side are the great Ocean: on the South lyeth Florida: on the North Nova Francia: as for the West thereof, the limits are unknowne."

Catonsville was at that time a part of Virginia evidently, at least according to the description just quoted from the *Generall Historie of Virginia,* published by Captaine John Smith at London in 1624. After speaking of the entrance to Chesapeake Bay between Capes Charles and Henry, the same writer continues:

"Within is a country that may have the prerogative over the most pleasant places knowne, for large and pleasant navigable Rivers, heaven and earth never agreed better to frame a place for man's habitation; were it fully manured and inhabited by industrious people. Here are mountaines, hils, plaines, valleyes, rivers, and brookes, all running most pleasantly into a faire Bay, compassed but for the mouth, with fruitfull and delightsome land."

Captain John Smith, who penned these enthuiastic lines, was

indeed a remarkable man. After founding the colony of Virginia in 1607, he proceeded to thoroughly explore Chesapeake Bay the following year. His method seems to have been to sail up the western shore of the Bay, proceeding up each of the larger rivers as far as his ship could go. After reaching the head of the Bay at the mouth of the Susquehannah River, he returned to the south, by way of Eastern Shore. Having described the Patuxent River, he adds:

"Thirtie leagues Northward is a river not inhabited, yet navigable; for the red clay resembling bole Armoniack we called it Bolus."

This river is evidently the Patapsco, and on an accompanying map he indicates with a cross above a hill the furthest point which he reached. Possibly this was the hill on which Federal Park is now located, and at all events it is evident from the accompanying map that he had no idea of the real extent of the Patapsco valley. It would, however, seem likely that the famous Captain John Smith penetrated to a point within perhaps ten miles of Catonsville.

Who may have been the next explorer to push his way up the river, and to reach the head of navigation at Elkridge Landing remains unknown, but it could not well have been many years after the date 1608 before some adventurous spirit pressed forward to that point.

It would indeed be interesting to know who was the first white man to come to the vicinity of Catonsville, but it is not probable that we will ever be able to find this out. Most likely some explorer ranging southward from Canada or New England, or northward from the Virginia settlements, came to the wooded hills north of the Patapsco many years before the arrival of the first real settler; and we cannot well go far amiss in saying that this event must have occurred somewhere about the year 1625.

For it is hardly possible that there could have been settlements on the lower shores of the Bay for many years before some one pushed northward thus far. Certain it is that in the next succeeding years white men must have come for one purpose or another in ever increasing numbers, and thus gradually have become more familiar with the real extent of the Patapsco Valley and its encompassing hills.

VI. *Maryland a Proprietary Province*

Virginia's extensive domain was destined to soon suffer serious losses: New England was settled by the Puritans, the Dutch took possession of what is now New York, and the Carolinas and Georgia were also separated from the original colony of the English in America.

In 1632 begins the history of Maryland, when King Charles the First of England granted a charter to George Calvert, first Lord Baltimore. This nobleman, having previously experimented unsuccessfully with a colony in Newfoundland, next thought of obtaining a territorial grant to the south of the present state of Virginia; but finally he persuaded the King to bestow upon him land on both sides of Chesapeake Bay, including the whole eastern peninsula, and running down to the Potomac on the western side. (See Wm. Hand Browne, *George Calvert and Cecilius Calvert,* p. 30.)

An old writer gives the following quaint description of the new colony:

" Mary-Land is a Province situated upon the large extending bowels of America, under the Government of Lord Baltimore, adjacent Northwardly upon the Confines of New-England, and neighbouring Southwardly upon Virginia, dwelling pleasantly upon the Bay of Chesapike, between the Degrees of 36 and 38, in the Zone temperate, and by Mathematical computation is eleven hundred and odd Leagues in Longitude from England, being within her own imbraces extraordinary pleasant and fertile." (See George Alsop, *A Character of the Province of Mary-Land,* London, 1666.)

A few settlers from Virginia had established themselves on Kent Island as early as 1631, but the regular settlement of the new province did not take place until several years later.

In November, 1633, the Ark and the Dove set sail from England with a band of colonists, but they did not arrive in Chesapeake Bay until March, 1634. After stopping a short time at Point Comfort, they sailed up the Bay and ascended the

Potomac river, where they were greatly impressed by the beauty of the scenery.

They disembarked at first on a small island, celebrated mass, and planted a cross; after which they explored the river in more detail. Finally they purchased from the natives an Indian town near the mouth of the Potomac, christened it St. Mary's, and established there the seat of the proprietary government.

As other colonists came pouring into the new province, both shores of the Bay were soon settled, as well as the banks of the largest tributary rivers. It was not, however, until sixty years later that the seat of government was removed to Annapolis as being more centrally located; and this situation has been found to be so advantageous that ever since 1694 the capital of the province (and later of the state) has been in " the ancient city."

The early struggles of the colonists at St. Mary's have been well described by Lucy Meacham Thruston in her historical novel entitled *Mistress Brent, a story of Lord Baltimore's Colony in 1633.* They need not be further entered upon here owing to the fact that the Catonsville region was not settled until many years later because of the considerable distance which separates it from the point where the first landing was made.

It will be more to the point for our present purpose to consider some of the special features of the proprietary form of government which prevailed in Maryland until the Revolution, and which directly affected the early history of Catonsville.

The Maryland charter of 1632 set up a species of kingdom within a kingdom, as the proprietor's rights were both territorial and governmental. He was made the absolute lord and owner of the province which he was to hold in free and common soccage, as the legal phrase of the time went, and pay to the crown a nominal annual rent of two Indian arrows and one-fifth part of all the gold and silver ore. He could grant or lease any portion of his territory to any person, and was given the privilege of erecting manors, etc. (See N. D. Mereness, *Maryland as a Proprietary Province.*)

During the seventeenth century the great sparseness of the population, the absence of towns, and the very limited social intercourse gave rise to but little political life among the settlers. Instead the first colonists had the primeval forest to deal with,

and for a long time the plantations were established only along the Bay shores, or upon the banks of the numerous rivers, as the usual means of communication were those by water and not by land.

The conditions of life were necessarily those of a colony in the wilderness. The earlier houses were rudely made out of logs and boards. Though the settlers had nature alone to struggle with, they found her in a kindly mood. The land was fertile, while the woods abounded with game, and the water with fish. On the Bay were swan, geese and ducks innumerable; the latter we are told by an enthusiastic writer, in " millionous multitudes."

The leading industry of the colony was from an early date the cultivation of tobacco, which even came to be generally used in place of money, as both coins and paper money were practically unknown.

The abundance of unoccupied or vacant land and its cheapness led to a thriftless mode of cultivation, for as the land became exhausted under continuous cropping fields which had ceased to be profitable were merely abandoned and fresh land brought under cultivation. (See Clayton C. Hall, *The Lords Baltimore and the Maryland Palatinate.*)

All of these conditions will be found to have prevailed in the early history of Catonsville and its immediate vicinity, as will appear in the articles to follow.

VII. *Hunters and Trappers*

It seems very likely that hunters and trappers from the early settlements to the south followed closely upon the heels of the first explorers to the vicinity of Catonsville, and that this occurred many years before the first actual settlers arrived.

For it seems evident from the original name applied by the Europeans to this region that it was especially esteemed as a hunting ground for deer and other kinds of game. The oldest land records in locating grants in the neighborhood of Catonsville always state that they are " on Hunting Ridge " (see Lib. D. D., fol. 30, Sept. 8, 1699) ; and indeed this name of Hunting

Ridge has been perpetuated to the present day as that of the country place of Mr. E. Austin Jenkins at the top of the long hill on Edmondson Avenue.

Just what may have been the extent of Hunting Ridge in the seventeenth century has not been determined, but it probably included all the hilly country lying between the Patapsco river and the streams flowing into the upper portion of the Bay.[5] This term is paralleled by that of Elk Ridge south of the Patapsco, and of Parr's Ridge between the upper Patapsco and the Monocacy further to the west.

The name Elk Ridge itself occurs at least as early as 1705, when it is found mentioned in the will of Colonel Edward Dorsey, who lived in what is now Howard County (see J. D. Warfield, *Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties*, p. 58). That deer were also plentiful in other portions of the Chesapeake Bay region is apparent from the names Elk River and Elkton on the Eastern Shore, and the Rocks of Deer Creek in Harford County.

Further evidence of this sort of the Catonsville region is found in the names Buck Range, surveyed on November 3, 1701, for Mathew Hawkins (see Lord Baltimore's Rent Roll in the library of the Maryland Historical Society) and mentioned in 1708 in the will of Colonel John Contee (see Baldwin, *Maryland Calendar of Wills*, Vol. III, p. 111), and of Buckridge, which was surveyed on February 10, 1720 (see statement of Benjamin Tasker, Esq., in Lib. P. L., No. 8, p. 528, on Aug. 1, 1732).

Hunting was a serious business for the early backwoods settler, and not merely the pleasing pastime that it is today. For out of the woods he must needs procure a good part of his food at the start, and the furs from the game that he either shot or trapped were needed to make his clothing and to barter for many of the necessities of life which came to him from more civilized sections of the country. Several neighbors would usually band themselves together in a little company when the time for the great autumn hunt arrived, and putting a few necessaries on the back of a packhorse they would sally forth

[5] No. It appears to have been applied only to a ridge between the Patapsco and Gwynn's Falls. W. B. M.

into the woods. Having carefully selected a location for their hunting camp, they would build themselves a small hut out of poles and cover it with bark or pine branches. The front was left open towards the south, and here would be built the camp fire. At night the hunters would return with the game they had bagged, and would sleep on the ground with their feet towards the fire. (See T. J. C. Williams, *A History of Washington County, Md.*, Vol. I, p. 13.)

The early colonial hunters adopted to a considerable extent the weapons of the Indians in addition to those of the white man, for oftentimes the danger of firing a shot in a country full of hostile Indians, or the difficulty of obtaining from a great distance the necessary ammunition, made the more primitive tool of the redskin the one best adapted to the situation in which the colonist found himself.

At times game was so plentiful, but grain so scarce, that the white man's family was obliged to live almost entirely from the results of the chase, while they pined for a mouthful of bread.

Indeed the hunting privileges were considered at that time to be of the very greatest importance by red men and white men alike. The Indians always expressly reserved for themselves exclusive rights to the game when selling land to the white men; and the proprietors of the various manors endeavored to secure like privileges for themselves to the exclusion of their tenants. But in such a wild country it is extremely likely that each one helped himself freely to any game that he could get.

When the actual settlers arrived a few years later and began to fell the forests, the larger game naturally disappeared rapidly, and it is not likely that deer were very plentiful in the woods about Catonsville a half century after the coming of the first settler.

The trapper, on the other hand, probably had a longer lease of life, as the smaller animals which fell a prey to his prowess were no doubt originally more numerous, and not so readily destroyed or so easily frightened off as were the larger animals which first attracted the attention of the white man.

It is needless to add that after the coming of settlers to his hereditary hunting grounds the Indian soon found his favorite

means of livelihood taken from him, and that he was forced back ever further into the untamed wilderness. When goaded to desperation by the continually increasing inroads of the European newcomers, he would at times sally forth and bring devastation to the outlying settlements. But soon he was either killed by the white man, or driven back to his ever-receding woodland haunts.

VIII. *Baltimore County*

As settlers began to pour into Maryland in ever increasing numbers one county after another was erected in order to facilitate the governing of the province, and this process was especially rapid in the first few decades.

Anne Arundel County was formed in the year 1650, and at first comprised in an indefinite manner a large extent of territory on the western side of the Bay.

A few years later it was thought advisable to erect another county which should include the land around the head of the Bay. This new political division was named Baltimore County after the Lord Proprietor's Irish barony of that name. The word itself is derived from the Celtic phrase " bilte mor," that is " the large town," a name which has become unexpectedly appropriate as applied to the present city.

Baltimore County was the sixth county of Maryland to be erected, being preceded only by St. Mary's, Kent, Anne Arundel, Calvert and Charles counties in the order named.

And yet its origin is shrouded in mystery, as no record has ever been found which indicates exactly the manner or time of its erection. The nearest that it is possible to come to a fixed date is the occurrence of the name of the county in some contemporary legal record. (See E. B. Mathews, in *Maryland Geological Survey*, Vol. VI, p. 421.)

The date usually given is 1659, although the earliest grants of land described as being in the new county are dated 1658. These grants are briefly entered in The Rent Roll of Baltimore County (Library of the Maryland Historical Society), the earliest being described as follows:

"Harmon Swantown, surveyed 15. Ap. 1658 for Godfrey Harmon and James Robinson near Swan Creek, 200 A."

As this evidence is, however, not contemporaneous there may be some doubt as to the correctness of this entry. Judge Albert Ritchie states in the *Maryland Historical Magazine,* Vol. I, p. 3, that none of the early patents for 1658 and 1659 examined by him mention Baltimore County. On January 12, 1659, the Lord Proprietor issued a writ "to the Sherriffe of Baltimore County" (see *Archives of Maryland,* Vol. I, p. 381), so that it is apparent that the new county's existence was by that date officially recognized.

At first Baltimore County included, besides its present limits, a part of Anne Arundel, Howard and Carroll counties, a portion of Pennsylvania adjacent to the Mason and Dixon Line, the whole of Harford county, and a part of Cecil and Kent counties. The earliest settlements in this extensive territory were made at the very head of the Bay, perhaps in 1627; but the Patapsco region still remained a wilderness for some years to come.

In 1658, as we have seen above, a patent was issued for land near Swan Creek,[6] which is just West of the present Fort Carroll; and in 1662 the first grant of land included in the present site of Baltimore City was made. (See W. H. Love, in *The Americana,* under Baltimore.) Thus we see that by this latter date actual settlers had already approached to within a few miles of Catonsville, although there was no thought of either city or village at that time.

Although it had taken less than thirty years for the settlements to spread from distant St. Mary's to the lower Patapsco, it was to take many more years for the settlers to penetrate inland the short additional distance to the present village of Catonsville. This fact is, however, amply explained by the ease with which communication was had by water at this early date, and the difficulty of traveling by land.

As early as 1661 the court of Baltimore County was held on Howell's Point, which lies between the present Tolchester and

[6] This Swan Creek, still so called, lies at the head of the Bay in Harford County. It was on this creek that Harmon's Swantown was laid out in 1658. W. B. M.

Betterton and which is now included in Kent County; then at various other places until in 1712 the County Seat was moved to Joppa in what is now Harford County. In 1768 the County Seat was again removed, this time to Baltimore Town, and when in 1851 the City was separated from the County, it was at length established at Towsontown.

The sudden and enormous growth of the City of Baltimore during the nineteenth century has changed conditions so tremendously in the Valley of the Patapsco that it is difficult for us at the present day to realize the situation in Baltimore County at a time when there was no city or town whatever within its limits; and yet this is what the reader must endeavor to do in considering the events which happened in this region throughout the seventeenth, and even well into the eighteenth century. For it is only in this manner that the conditions surrounding the settlement of the Catonsville region can be fully realized.

IX. Land Speculators

In the early days of the Province of Maryland land was so cheap and plentiful and settlers so few in numbers that the temptation to speculate in land was very strong. Enterprising citizens who were possessed of a little money and a long look ahead would obtain grants of land far in excess of what they themselves could make use of in order to hold them for a rise in price.

As the Lord Proprietor merely required them to pay taxes on a valuation amounting to about a dollar an acre, such speculation was not a very difficult matter for any one possessed of capital and influence in the government. The best locations were of course the first to be selected by the land grabbers, and so when the *bona fide* settlers arrived they found all the good land in certain sections already preempted, while exorbitant prices were demanded by the absentee owners.

That this condition prevailed in Baltimore County at a very early date is evident from a law which was passed some five years or so after the erection of the county. When the General

Assembly of Maryland met at St. Mary's on September 15, 1663, a petition was presented by the burgesses of Baltimore County complaining of the greed of certain land speculators.

In the Upper House *Journal* for 1659-1669, pp. 182-183, there appears the following entry under the date " Munday September 28th, 1663 ":

" Vpon the Act for seateing all lands in Baltemore County The way prescribed in this Act for seateing plantacions in Baltemore County is judged prejudiciall to inhabitants of that County in as much as itt obliges them to keepe 3 servants aboue 16 yeares old: vpon their plantacions which many of them are not able to doe besides that they have allowed to shorte a tyme to seate in after the 25th March 1655 and an vnseasonable tyme of the yeare."

From this entry it appears that the bill as originally framed after receiving the petition met with opposition and gave rise to some debate. After amendment, however, it was passed on " Tuesday 29th. Sept. 1663," as is evidenced by the entry:

" Then was read an Act for Seateing all lands in Baltimore County and Assented vnto." (See as above, p. 185.)

The full text of the act as finally passed has been preserved in P. R. O. Colonial Entry Book No. 53:

" An Act for Seateing of Lands in Baltemore County.

The Burgesses of this Assembly vpon a Peticion preferred by the Major parte of the Burgesses of Baltemore County Considering the inability of Baltemore County to defend it Selfe by reason of the few Inhabitants therein. And that occasionally by divers persons engrossing many and great Tracts of Land whereby those whoe would come and seat therein are hindered there being noe Land to take vpp and what is allready taken vpp cannot be purchased but att Deere Rates where by the sayd County is in noe probability (of a long Tyme) to be able to defend itt selfe against their Enemyes Bee itt therefore Enacted by the Lord Proprietor by and with the Consent of the upper and lower howse of this present generall Assembly that all persons who have Land lyeing and being in Baltimore County

in the Province of Maryland shall att or before the 25th. day of December 1664 Seate the same And if such persons as aforesaid doe not seate their Respective Seates of Land then itt shalbee lawfull for any one who hath a desire to live in Baltemore County to take vpp any such Seate of Land (not seated as aforesaid And to seate thereon as if itt neuer had been taken vpp or pattented Provided that whosoever shall take vppe such Lands as aforesaid shall seate the Land with three able hands with in Two Months next ensueing the sayd 25th day of December 1664 or else the sayd Land to reverte to first owner thereof without any further charge And if the aforesaid owner doth not Seate the sayd Land as aforesaid with in Two Monthes next ensueing the tyme of Reversion of such Land vnto such owner as aforesaid then itt shall bee lawful for any one who desires the same to take itt vpp as if itt never had been vpp or pattented Provided he seate itt within Two Monthes next after the lapse of the first owner thereof And if itt be not seated with in Two Moneths as aforesaid then to revert to the first owner as aforesaid Provided That this Act nor anything therein conteyned doe not extend to Releive any person or persons who hath forfeited his or their Land by the Act for deserted Plantacions or to prejudice orphans vnder age.

The vpper howse have Assented

John Gittings clke"

The lower howse have Assented

Wm. Bretton clke.

(See *Archives of Maryland,* Vol. I.)

At this time the largest land owner was probably Col. Nathaniel Utie, and a little later the Dorsey family became noted for their extensive holdings (some of them in Catonsville). But the really great land owners of Maryland were the various members of the Carroll family.

In a letter written on January 9, 1764, by Charles Carroll to his son Charles Carroll of Carrollton, signer of the Declaration of Independence, he gives "a short abstract of the value" of his estate. He then owned forty thousand acres of land himself, a fifth share in an additional thirty thousand acres, besides

twenty lots in Annapolis. (See K. M. Rowland, *The Life of Charles Carroll of Carrollton,* Vol. I, pp. 50-60.)

The thirty thousand acres just mentioned included most of the land in the neighborhood of Catonsville. Other members of the Carroll family were also large land owners, and their descendants at the present day still have extensive property interests in Maryland, although much of their land has been disposed of from time to time.

X. *The Manor of Baltimore*

The old land records for the Catonsville regions regularly state that the grant made by Lord Baltimore is " to be holden of us and our Heirs as of our Manner of Baltimore " (Liber P. L.: No. 2, pp. 246-247), or some similar phrase.

The constant recurrence of such a statement naturally arouses our interest, and the question at once presents itself as to what this long obsolete term means. For at the present day no " Manor of Baltimore " appears to exist anywhere in Maryland.

And first of all as to the meaning of the word " manor " in colonial times. On turning to the Century Dictionary one finds, to begin with, the following interesting quotation:

" The colony of Maryland was settled and established on the manorial principle. *The Dial,* IV., No. 48."

The word itself is of Norman origin, but the institution to which it referred existed in England long before the Norman Conquest. In feudal times it formed an important feature in the political subdivisions of the country, but by the time that Maryland was settled the manor system was dying out. (See C. M. Andrews, *The Old English Manor,* Baltimore, 1892.)

The Lord Proprietor endeavored to found a provincial aristocracy by the granting of manors to influential persons, who were invested with a certain amount of jurisdiction. He even adopted the policy, for financial reasons, of reserving certain manors for his own use, and to this latter class belonged the Manor of Baltimore on the Patapsco River, which evidently included in its bounds the present site of Catonsville. In the

southern counties the early manors were usually well organized, but there is no evidence to show that such was the case for the manor here in question.[7]

By the year 1675 there were about sixty manors in the various counties of Maryland, but after that date their erection almost ceased. It is probable, therefore, that the Manor of Baltimore on the Patapsco River was set apart for the Lord Proprietor's own use before that date. Perhaps we can approximate even more closely to the date of its erection by noting the fact that in the year 1665, during the administration of Cecilius Calvert the first Lord Proprietor, instructions were issued directing that in every county at least two manors containing not less than six thousand acres each should be surveyed and set apart for his private use. (See J. Kilty, *The Land Holder's Assistant and Land-Office Guide*, Baltimore, 1808, pp. 95, 98 and 99.) It is not unlikely that the particular manor in question was erected either in 1665, or shortly thereafter, as it was during these years that settlers began to penetrate to the main falls of the Patapsco.

We can at least be sure that the manor had been erected by 1673 from the following entry in Liber No. 15, folio 202:

" Notice from the Surveyor General that all the lands whose water falls into any swamp, branch, or run of Patuxent river on the Eastern side thereof, being ten miles above Robert Tyler's, and all the lands whose waters fall into any part of the South West branch of Patapsco river above the falls thereof, are reserved for his Lordship's use, and no surveys to be made thereon without a particular order from the Governor." 26 July, 1673.

Each of the proprietary manors was placed in charge of an official, who leased it out to tenants in small parcels. But the administration of the manors in later years was very lax, and many irregularities gradually came to be allowed in the land grants. The Lord Proprietor was, however, able to sell off

[7] The Manor of Baltimore does not seem to have had definite limits within other than those of Baltimore County and lands described as situated in this "Manor" were apparently taken up and patented in the usual way, and were subject to the ordinary conditions such as quit rents appertaining elsewhere in the Province. W. B. M.

through the agency of a special commission nearly fifty thousand acres belonging to his manors and reserves between the years 1766 and 1773. (See N. D. Mereness, *Maryland as a Proprietary Province*, p. 54.)

The earliest definite date of a grant of land belonging to this manor so far found is 1674 for a grant on the north side of the river (Land Records 18. 220). There is also another grant on the same side dated a little later in the year (Land Records 18. 358); and a grant in 1677 on the north bank (Land Records 19. 456). Probably also in 1677 is another grant on the south side of the Patapsco (Land Records 19. 448), and many grants on both sides may be found in later years.

The investigation of the records at Annapolis which disclosed these facts also gave evidence of the existence of various other Manors of Baltimore within the original limits of Baltimore County. Thus there was a Manor of Baltimore on North East River before 1670 (Land Records 10. 489), and another on Elk River whose exact boundaries are given in 1670 (Land Records 12. 524), and which is again mentioned in a grant a few months later (Land Records 12. 542). About the year 1680 mention is also found of a Manor of Baltimore on the Gunpowder River (Land Records 22. 112).

Very little seems to be known about the Manors of Baltimore, although they are mentioned in land grants extending over many years. Perhaps a relic of the Manor on the Patapsco is the name Manor Vale which still appears on the atlas of Baltimore County published in 1877 as that of a country place of one hundred and eighty-two acres owned by Dr. J. P. Thom and located on Catonsville Avenue a short distance north of the Relay House.

A modern novel describing the life on an English manor was published by M. E. Francis in 1902 under the title of *The Manor Farm*; and Mrs. A. L. Sioussat has recently begun the publication of a work entitled *Old Manors in the Colony of Maryland* which gives many interesting details and illustrations.

XI. *The Patapsco a Thoroughfare*

At the present day we are accustomed to think of the Patapsco River from Baltimore to the Bay as a great thoroughfare for ocean-going vessels as well as for bay-craft; but it has only been made such by the expenditure of vast sums of money for dredging.

In Colonial times, however, when dredging was unknown in Maryland, and when the Patapsco River was in its natural state the situation in regard to its use as a thoroughfare was very different from what it is now.

The lower and wider portion of the river from the present Basin to the Bay was much shallower; but on the other hand the upper portion of the main branch of the river was much deeper than it is at present.

The filling up of the bed of the Patapsco River from Elkridge Landing where it issues from a deep gorge to a point near Baltimore may probably be accounted for as follows:

Geology tells us that the Chesapeake Bay is the drowned valley of the Susquehanna River, and that the whole region has been successively submerged and elevated several times. In this manner the numerous broad estuaries surrounding the Bay on all sides have been formed; for they are simply sunken river valleys. During a period of submergence the waves of the Atlantic Ocean formed extensive beaches and deposits of mud, sand and gravel under water from the debris washed down from the mountains. Then when the land was elevated the streams cut narrow channels through this loose material to the now more distant seashore. After this the land was once more partially submerged, and the sea water from the Ocean filled up the previously formed narrow channels.

When the first settlers arrived the Patapsco River was in the state just described, and it was possible for the small sailing vessels then used to proceed up the narrow but comparatively deep channel as far as Elkridge Landing. As the whole valley of the Patapsco was at that time covered with a dense forest very little silt was being washed down stream, and floods were

of slight proportions. The situation in regard to the river would have remained much the same even now had not the hand of man intervened.

After the settlers had cut down the forests and plowed up the ground the river became very much changed in the course of a few years. Now the heavy rains washed enormous quantities of soil and debris down the river, and soon the lower portion of the channel where there was practically no fall for some eight or ten miles began to fill up. It took, however, about a century for the navigation of the river as far as Elkridge Landing to come to an end if we reckon from the date of the first plantation on the upper portion of the Patapsco River. It has not been possible to ascertain the definite dates of the first and the last ship at this point; but perhaps we will not be far wrong in putting down the years 1650 and 1800 as the two limits.

The one definitely known circumstance in this connection is the coming of the Ellicott brothers from Bucks County near Philadelphia to Ellicott's Mills by way of Elkridge Landing in the year 1771. The recital is in itself of sufficient interest to be given at some length here:

" The wagons, carts, wheelbarrows and handbarrows, and all their mechanical and agricultural implements, with the household goods for the families of their workmen, and the draft horses necessary for the work they were about to commence, were put on board a vessel in the port of Philadelphia, and taken down the Delaware to New Castle, and there landed. The wagons and carts were then loaded with the articles brought down in the vessel and driven across the Peninsula to the head of Elk, where they were again embarked on a vessel which lay waiting for them, and which, afterwards, moving along the Chesapeake Bay, to the Patapsco, proceeded up that river to Elkridge Landing, which had been laid out as a town in 1734, and where vessels of light draft could readily enter. At this point the Ellicotts finally discharged their cargo, the wagons and carts were reloaded, and passing over a narrow rough country road to within one mile of their destination, were obliged to stop on account of the precipices and rocks which

rendered their way to the site contemplated for the mills, impassible. Here the wagons and carts were unloaded, and their contents carried by parties of men, on handbarrows, to the end of the journey; the same men after taking the wagons and carts to pieces carried them, in detached portions, to their place of occupation." (See Martha Ellicott Tyson, *Settlement of Ellicott's Mills*, pp. 4-6.)

Elkridge Landing was formerly called Patapsco, and it was a port where vessels loaded on the hogsheads of tobacco which had been rolled down from the plantations for miles around. Sometimes these vessels proceeded directly to London, at other times to Annapolis, or to Joppa.

The name Patapsco itself was probably derived from an Indian word of the Algonquian dialect Pota-psk-ut, which meant "at the jutting ledge of rock." The rocks in question are no doubt those known now as the "White Rocks," a group of limestone formation opposite the mouth of Rock Creek. To the Indians this name designated merely a locality on the river, but being misunderstood by the early settlers, it was by them applied to the whole river. (See C. W. Bump, *Indian Place Names in Maryland*, 1907.)

XII. *Approach to Catonsville*

On considering the early history of Catonsville the question very naturally presents itself as to how the first settlers reached the vicinity. In attempting to answer this question various considerations may be taken into account, and by means of them we may hope to arrive at more or less definite conclusions.

It has long since been definitely established that the region about Frederick and Hagerstown was settled by people who came from Pennsylvania by following along the mountain ranges. But there is no evidence to show that the same thing was true of the Catonsville section; and indeed Pennsylvania itself was settled at too late a date for any such emigration to Catonsville to have taken place.

There is likewise no evidence to show that there was a move-

ment of population from New England, New York or Delaware to the valley of the Patapsco, although all of these regions were settled quite early.

All the information that we do possess which bears on this point indicates that the first settlers came from the south by way of the Chesapeake Bay.

Now in the Chesapeake Bay region it is very clear that in the early years almost all travel was by way of the water, and that people commonly sailed about the Bay and up the rivers whereever their craft could go. Hence in order to reach any inland point they proceeded as far as possible up some nearby river before leaving their ships.

Hence the question for the Catonsville region has practically narrowed down to the rivers Potomac, Patuxent and Patapsco; for all three of them were navigable in the seventeenth century to within comparatively few miles of Catonsville.

Ships sailed up the Potomac at least as far as Rock Creek (witness Braddock's Expedition in 1755), which point in a direct line is only some thirty miles distant from Catonsville.

The Patuxent is navigable at the present day for nearly fifty miles from the point where it empties into the Bay, and in Colonial times it accommodated vessels for a still greater distance. At the nearest point it is only fifteen miles distant from Catonsville.

Elkridge Landing was then the head of navigation on the Patapsco, and vessels might thus approach to within four miles of Catonsville.

Now the shores of the Potomac were the first to be settled by the colonists sent over by Lord Baltimore in 1634; but the difficulty of communication by land from the valley of the Potomac near the present Georgetown to the valley of the Patapsco near Catonsville was at that time so great in the absence of roads other than Indian trails that the Potomac route need not be seriously considered in this connection.

There remain, then, the Patuxent route and the Patapsco route for further consideration.

That the Patuxent River was open to settlers at a very early date is evident from the following entry in the records under date of the 7th March, 1641:

" Lay out some time before mid-summer next at the furthest for Thomas Petit 200 acres of Land and for Arthur Hay one hundred acres and for John Gay one hundred acres in any part on the north side of Patuxent river not afore disposed of and this shall be your Warrant." (See Kitty, *Land-Holder's Assistant*, p. 70.)

No definite information is at hand to determine whether the first settlers came by way of the Patuxent or the Patapsco, but it would seem likely that they were both used almost simultaneously. While the tide of land patents was creeping up the Patapsco from the Bay, and thence up the valley of Gwynn's Falls towards Catonsville, a line of plantations was extending further and further up the Patuxent towards a point above Ellicott City. This last-mentioned current of settlers probably branched off towards the neighborhood of Elk Ridge, and thence after crossing the river at Elkridge Landing proceeded up the Rolling Road to Catonsville. It is possible, however, that Elkridge Landing was reached by the early settlers exclusively by the Patapsco route. It is evident at least that the south bank of the Patapsco below the head of navigation attracted many settlers before an advance was made up the heights to Catonsville.

Eventually these various streams of settlers seem to have converged somewhat to the north of Catonsville proper in the neighborhood now known as the White Grounds. At a later time there was probably a movement from Franklintown towards Catonsville, as well as a similar one from Ellicott's Mills. The only direction from which no settlers seem to have come to Catonsville was from the northwest.

The probable explanation of this converging movement upon Catonsville is to be found in its geographical situation upon high ground surrounded on all sides but the northwest by deeply eroded valleys. The incoming settlers at first followed the easy grades along the streams by boat or trail until the ever-increasing pressure for virgin tobacco land forced them to climb the hills.

The process just described seems to have taken nearly two centuries for its practical completion to the point where all the easily tilled land was divided up into farms and market gardens.

The details of this movement will appear more fully as the history of individual settlers and their land grants is successively taken up in the succeeding chapters.

XIII. *Catonsville Probably Settled by Quakers*

The religious sect of the Society of Friends, or Quakers as they are more commonly called, originated in England in 1647 when George Fox began his long career of preaching. Great enthusiasm for the new doctrines was soon aroused in England, accompanied by much persecution and physical suffering inflicted by the authorities on the Quakers for holding most tenaciously to their peculiar views.

The first Quakers came to Virginia probably in 1655, to New England in 1656. Their coming everywhere created an uproar attended by persecutions of various sorts. In 1658 two Quakers visited Maryland and caused much trouble to the public authorities; but soon there were large numbers of this sect on the Western Shore. Their headquarters were on the West River below Annapolis, where George Fox himself came to preach in 1672, when he established amid great enthusiasm " the General Meeting for all the Friends in the Province of Maryland."

The sufferings of the Quakers in Maryland were small in comparison with those in other parts of America, and their colony here was soon augmented by many refugees from Virginia. Towards the end of the century they became so influential, especially in Anne Arundel County, that they were able to practically control Colonial legislation in religious matters. (See A. C. and R. H. Thomas, *A History of the Friends in America*, pp. 76-82.)

That the Quakers were more numerous in Anne Arundel County than elsewhere about the period when the Catonsville region was settled appears clearly from the religious census of Maryland taken in obedience to an order of the Governor and Council dated August 10, 1697. The Church of England had recently been officially recognized, and the Governor wished to ascertain the strength of the Catholics, Quakers and other dissenters in the province.

The sheriffs of St. Mary's, Somerset and Dorchester Counties

reported that there were no Quakers; the sheriff of Charles County that there two Quakers, but no meeting house; of Prince George County that they had no meeting house. The sheriff of Baltimore County reported that the Quakers had neither teacher nor place of worship. Kent County had a meeting house with adjoining burial place; Calvert County had two meeting houses, Talbot County four meeting houses. But the sheriff of Anne Arundel County made the following comprehensive report:

"The Quakers have one timberwork meeting house built at West River upon land formerly owned by Mr. Francis Hooker, by them purchased to the quantity of two acres, where they keep their Yearly Meetings,—which is at Whitsuntide:—Also a Quarterly Meeting at the house of Samuel Chew:—Also a Monthly Meeting in Herring Creek meeting house, standing on the land purchased of Samuel Chew:—Also a Weekly Meeting at the same house:—Also Monthly and Weekly Meetings at the house of William Richardson, Senior, West River:—Also a Weekly Meeting at the house of Ann Lumbolt, near the head of South River:—Also a Monthly Meeting at the house of John Belt. So far as I have the account from Mr. Richardson, I can understand of no preachers they have in this County but Mr. Wm. Richardson and Samuel Galloway's wife." (See Council Proceedings, Liber H. D. No. 2.)

"The location of many of the oldest meeting houses is still known, the house at West River has long since disappeared, but the ground is still used as a public cemetery, and is now called the Quaker Meeting lot. It is on the road leading from Galesville to Owensville, one mile from the river; and the venerable trees that stand within its precincts keep faithful watch over the resting places of many of the first Friends of Maryland, whose rigid simplicity permitted no monumental stone to tell who sleeps beneath their shadows." (See J. S. Norris, *The Early Friends in Maryland,* 1862, p. 26.)

A Quaker is known to have owned land in Maryland as early as 1665, and in 1672 the will of Peter Sharpe (who was a physician in Calvert County) contains the following bequests:

" To Friends in the ministry, viz: Allice Gary, William Cole and Sarah Mash, if then in being,—Wenlock Christerson and his wife; John Burnett and Daniel Gould, in money or goods,—forty shillings worth a piece; also for a perpetual standing, a horse, for the use of Friends in the ministry." (See Davis, *Day Star*, p. 78.)

In the old manuscript records of the Maryland Quakers under the date of 1678 is found the following entry concerning a proposal of marriage:

" Obadiah Judkins and Obedience Jenner, acquainted this meeting, and also the women's meeting, with their intentions of coming together as husband and wife, according to the order of truth; now inasmuch as the young woman is but lately come forth of England, and Friends noe certaine knowledge of her, the advice of the men and women's meeting is that they forbeare, and proceed noe further, till certificate be procured out of England from the meeting where she last belonged unto, of her being cleere from others, and as to the manner of her life and conversation, that so the truth may be kept cleere in all things; both the partys being willing to submit to the same, and also to live apart in the mean time."

Now when we compare the names and dates of the old land records with the facts ascertained about the Quakers in Anne Arundel County at the same period, it becomes quite apparent that the earliest settlers in the Catonsville region must have belonged for the most part to this religious body, and that they came up largely from the adjoining county to the south. The details of this migration will be considered further on.

XIV. *Early Quakers in Maryland*

Having already established in a general way the fact of strong Quaker influence in Anne Arundel County and other parts of Maryland, it remains to consider sundry details connected with this question.

The records of the Quaker meetings began to be regularly kept only in 1677, and hence before that date information is somewhat scanty and unsatisfactory. It has therefore seemed advisable to put down in orderly fashion certain scattered bits of information.

Joseph Besse in his work entitled *A Collection of the Suffering of the People called Quakers* (London, 2 vols., 1753) devotes ten pages to Maryland. From this and from other sources the following list of names, with personal details, has been compiled. The list is of some interest because it is likely that some of the persons, or their descendants, were among the early settlers of Catonsville.

Where the date 1658 is added it is to be understood that the event referred to probably occurred in that year of special turmoil; otherwise the dates given seem to be fairly well established.

List of Quakers before 1680:

Alcock, Samuel, A. A. Co., mentioned in court order, Nov. 10, 1662, and warrant, Dec. 16, 1662.

Arnold, Richard, fined in 1678.

Ayres, Edward, A. A. Co., Court order, Nov. 10, 1662, and warrant, Dec. 16, 1662.

Baldwin, John, A. A. Co., fined in 1658, Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Barnes, Francis, fined in 1658.

Berry, William, fined in 1658.

Billingsley, Francis, fined tobacco in 1659.

Birkhead, Abraham, fined in 1661.

Brooks, Michael, fined in 1658.

Bruton, John, A. A. Co., Court order Oct. 10, 1662.
Burges, William, Council order, July 22, 1658.
Burnett, John, will of Peter Sharpe in 1672.
Burnyeat, John, called meeting at West River in 1672.
Burridge, John, fined in 1661.
Burton, Edmund, fined in 1658.
Carline, Henry, fined twice in 1658.
Chapman, Thomas, in Md. in 1658.
Chece, Samuel, fined in 1658.
Christerson, Elizabeth, legacies in 1679.
Christerson, Wenlock, and wife, will of Peter Sharpe in 1672, petitioner in 1674.
Clarkson, Robert, letter to Elizabeth Harris "From Severn the 14th of the eleventh month 1657," fined in 1658.
Clerkson, Robert, A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662 (probably same as preceeding.)
Coale or Cole, Josiah, A. A. Co., came to Md. from Virginia in 1658, warrants of July 8 and 16, banished in 1661.
Coale, Thomas, fined in 1658.
Cole, William, servant taken from him in 1658, will of Peter Sharpe in 1672.
Davis, William, A. A. Co., fined in 1658, Court order, Nov. 10, 1662, and warrant, Dec. 16, 1662.
Day, John, fined in 1658.
Drew, Hugh, fined in 1658.
Dunn, Robert, fined in 1658.
Edmondson, John, on committee in 1677.
Elliott, Susanna, fined for servant in 1658.
Elliott, William, fined in 1658.
Ellis, John, fined in 1658.
Emser, Richard, fined in 1658.
Everitt, John, Council order of Nov. 28, 1661.
Fishbourn, Ralph, on committee in 1677.
Ford, Widow, applied to meeting in 1679.
Fox, George, visited Md. in 1672 and preached at West River, left Md. 21st of 3d month, 1673.
Fuller, William, fined in 1658.
Gardiner, Alexander, A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Gary, Alice, will of Peter Sharpe in 1672.

Gould, Daniel, will of Peter Sharpe in 1672.

Hammond, John, A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Hammond, Thomas, jun., A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Harris, Elizabeth, visited A. A. Co., probably in 1657.

Harwood, Robert, fined in 1658.

Hawkins, Ralph, fined in 1658.

Hawkins, Ralph, jun., A. A. Co., Court order, Nov. 10, 1662, and warrant, Dec. 16, 1662.

Hillen, John, fined in 1678.

Hilling, John, secretary of the meeting in 1677.

Hinchman, Edmund, fined in 1658.

Hodgson, Robert, in Md. in 1659.

Holder, Christopher, in Md. in 1659.

Holyday, John, fined and "cruelly whipt" in 1658.

Homewood, John, A. A. Co., fined in 1658, Court order, Nov. 10, 1662, and warrant, Dec. 16, 1662.

Homewood Thomas, fined in 1658.

Howard, John, A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Illingsworth, William, imprisoned in 1661.

Jeff, Thomas, A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Jenner, Obedience, betrothed to Obadiah Judkins in 1678.

Judkins, Obadiah, betrothed to Obedience Jenner in 1678.

Keene, Richard, struck by Sheriff Coarsey in 1658, his wife had parley with Capt. John Odber and Justice of the Peace Ashcombe.

Knap, John, labouring man over sixty, fined in 1658.

Larkin, John, fined in 1658.

Lewis, Wiliam, deceased, mentioned at West River meeting in 1677.

Lowe, Vincent, to be visited by committee in 1677.

Maccubbins, John, A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Mash, Sarah, will of Peter Sharpe in 1672.

Mears or Meares, Thomas, Council order of July 22, 1658, he and his son were fined by Sheriff John Norwood in 1658.

Mosse, Richard, A. A. C., Court order, Nov. 10, 1662, and warrant, Dec. 15, 1662.

Muffit, William, fined in 1658.

Neale, Jonathan, A. A. Co., fined in 1658, Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

O'Mealy, Bryon, on committee in 1677.

Osborne, Henry, fined in 1658.

Pascall, James, very poor man with wife and two small children, fined in 1658.

Pitts, John, Half Year's Men's Meeting held at his house on the Eastern Shore in 1679.

Preston, Richard, fined in 1658.

Pullen, Richard, A. A. Co., Court order, Nov. 10, 1662, and warrant, Dec. 16, 1662.

Read, William, A. A. Co., had servant taken in 1658, Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Richardson, William, A. A. Co., Court order, Nov. 10, 1662, and warrant, Dec. 16, 1662.

Ridgley, Robert, letter mentioned in 1677.

Rigby, James, imprisoned in 1661.

Robinson, William, in Md., in 1659, when he wrote a letter.

Rofe, George, 12th of 9th month, 1661, writes to George Fox concerning visit to Md., he was drowned in Chesapeake Bay in 1663.

Roper, Thomas, A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Salmon, Ralph, A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

Sharpe or Sharp, Peter, surgeon of Calvert Co., lost debt due from Adam Staples in 1658, signed document on the "twentieth of the fifth month 1665," made will in 1672.

Sparrow, Thomas, fined in 1661.

Stacy, John, legacies mentioned in 1679.

Stake, Robert, imprisoned in 1661.

Stockden, William, fined in 1658.

Stockley, Woodman, fined in 1658.

Stockwell, William, fined in 1661.

Taylor, Thomas, appointed on committee in 1677, subscription in 1677.

Thurston, Thomas, came to Md. from Virginia and preached in 1658, warrant of July 8, 1658.

Turner, Thomas, A. A. Co., hat confiscated in 1658, Court

order, Oct. 10, 1662, ditto, Nov. 10, 1662, and warrant, Dec. 16, 1662.

Underwood, Thomas, very poor lame man with wife and four small children, fined in 1658.

Walcott, John, fined in 1658.

White, Guy, fined in 1658.

Woolchurch, Henry, mentioned in letter from Robert Clarkson to Elizabeth Harris in 1657, fined in 1658, name in manuscript records of Friends in 1677.

Wright, Ishmael, fined in 1658.

Wyatt, Nicholas, A. A. Co., Court order, Oct. 10, 1662.

XV. *Land Records*

Most important among the many kinds of original manuscript records in which are preserved fragmentary portions of the Colonial History of Catonsville are undoubtedly the Land Records.

While in most cases the original documents themselves are either lost or practically unfindable, the official copies made by the clerks in the various land offices are still extant in many cases, and they are readily accessible to the public in their several respositories.

The very oldest land records of Maryland are probably to be found in the Record Office in London, but it is not likely that they contain documents bearing directly upon the land history of Catonsville.

Next in point of time come the land records which were kept at the City of St. Mary's in the early years of the Province. At first such matters were not attended to very systematically, and much confusion unavoidably arose; but after a few years the legal business connected with land dealings became so large and important that a special Land Office was created to take charge of it for the Lord Proprietor.

When the capital of the Province was transferred from the City of St. Mary's to Annapolis in 1694 it is probable that the land records were soon after removed to the new governmental

centre. But a disastrous fire had before that time burned most of the very oldest records.

These early records have remained in Annapolis from that time to the present day, where they are carefully preserved in the Office of the Land Commissioner in the new Court of Appeals Building near the State House.

When Baltimore County was erected about the year 1658 one of the first things done was to start a new set of land records apparently. But as the county seat was repeatedly moved from place to place in the early years it is probable that many of these records have been lost. When the county seat became more definitely fixed at Joppa in 1712 it seems likely that more care was exercised in the recording of land grants, for there are still preserved in the Baltimore Court House many volumes of these records which were removed thither when the older county seat was abandoned in 1768. The oldest of these records still extant bears the date June 28th, 1659.

When Baltimore city was separated from Baltimore County in 1851, a new county seat was established at Towsontown and another set of land records was begun. A few years later a portion of these records were injured or destroyed in a fire which occurred in the new court house.

The Catonsville land records are, therefore, at present preserved in Annapolis, Baltimore and Towson, depending largely upon the date at which they were officially recorded. Even the latest records, however, commonly refer back to the original colonial patents by name, so that information on the earliest land grants in Catonsville must be diligently sought for in all these depositories.

If the land records just mentioned were all accurate, complete, carefully indexed, and accompanied by maps showing the location of the land in question, it would be a comparatively easy matter to trace out the history of the land about Catonsville from the very earliest times. But unfortunately this ideal condition of the records is very far from being an actual fact; and hence research among them is extremely tedious and difficult. So many records are missing, so many are in a dilapidated condition, so many boundaries are vaguely given, so many

careless errors occur, that an examination of the land records is much like trying to solve a difficult puzzle.

As a general rule it may perhaps be asserted that the older the records the more difficult are they to properly control and interpret. For instance, who can be expected to find a piece of property whose location is given as "in Baltimore County on the north side of pattapscoo River above the head thereof in the woods of hunting ridge?" And yet that very piece of property includes the woods adjoining German Church on Ingleside Avenue, which has been the favorite playground of the school children for generations.

At Annapolis many of the very oldest land records were in such bad condition many years ago that fresh copies of them were made to preserve them for future generations. But some even of these copies have by this time deteriorated to such an extent that it is wholly impossible at present to read them.

At Baltimore there is a gap in the land records between the years 1665 and 1682, and even after the latter date they appear to be very scanty for a long period, as many patents were probably recorded at the City of St. Mary's.

At Towson a fire damaged the earliest records to such an extent that they had to be recopied; and owing probably to the fact that many passages were hard to make out, the copies contain many additional errors. In some of the record books the traces of the smoke are still quite apparent after more than fifty years.

The complications that have arisen in connection with the bequest, sale and subdivision of the original land grants during a period of more than two hundred years are oftentimes quite hopeless for any unraveling. Even in Colonial times the record books are full of more or less vain attempts to straighten-out snarls of this sort. In other cases very few changes have taken place, and in one instance at least a boundary line near Catonsville surveyed more than two hundred years ago is still plainly visible to the eye of the casual passerby in spite of the fact that a road has been laid out which cuts it into two parts.

XVI. *Church Records*

We have already seen that the public land records of Maryland are at present preserved in some three or four repositories. But the same state of affairs by no means exists in the case of the church records of the state. Maryland was in fact an asylum for all kinds of people who were elsewhere persecuted on account of their religious belief, and hence very naturally the church records kept by the various denominations must be widely scattered at the present time.

The famous Toleration Act of 1649 enumerates "Puritans, Independants, Prespiterians, Lutherans, Calvenists, Anabaptists, Brownists, Antinomians, Barrowists, Roundheads, Separatists." We know from various sources that there were still other sects in Maryland at that time. In a letter addressed by Lord Baltimore to the Privy Council in England on July 19, 1677, occurs the following passage:

"The greatest part of inhabitants of that province [three or four at least] do consist of Praesbiterians, Independants, Anabaptists and Quakers, those of the church of England as well as those of the Romish being the fewest, so that it will be a most difficult task to draw such persons to consent unto a law, which will compel them to maintain ministers of a contrary persuasion to themselves." (See J. W. McIlvain, *Early Presbyterianism in Maryland*, p. 5.)

In the early years of the Province there were no regular church records kept by any of the denominations, unless perhaps it be the Catholics. As we have already seen the Quaker records do not begin until 1677. Then come apparently the Episcopalians (established church in 1692), then the Presbyterians in 1706. The Methodists came to Maryland only a few years before the Revolutionary War, so that their denomination can not well have any extensive Colonial records. The other religious bodies do not seem to have had a large membership in the early years of the Province.

To turn now to the church records themselves. All the church buildings of Catonsville and its vicinity have been erected in

ST. TIMOTHY'S CHURCH AND HALL, AS THEY APPEARED ON THE EVE OF THE CIVIL WAR.

The Church was established in 1844 and the next year the School was founded by the rector, Rev. Libertus Van Bokkelen. From a print at the Maryland Historical Society.

comparatively recent times, and even the congregations themselves seem all to be less than a hundred years old. Hence, in seeking old church records we must evidently look elsewhere than in the village itself. While much of the early religious history of Catonsville must probably always remain obscure, a little light at least can be thrown on the question at the present time.

Perhaps the oldest church records of any sort pertaining to this region are to be found in the Friends' Reference Library in Devonshire House, London. "This library has been accumulating its stories of Quaker literature in print and manuscript during more than two centuries." (See C. M. Andrews, *Guide to the Manuscript Materials,* etc., Carnegie Institution, 1908.)

A great many religious reports from the Maryland meetings are here preserved, and also accounts of missionary travels such as the Journal of George Fox.

In Baltimore are to be found the official records of the Friends' Yearly Meeting and many others pertaining to Colonial Maryland are doubtless to be found elsewhere.

In 1692 the Patapsco Parish of the Church of England (later St. Paul Parish) was organized under the authority of the Provincial government, and this parish included the Catonsville region. In 1697 it seems to have made the following report to the Bishop of London:

"Baltimore County

Patapsco (alias St. Paul's) Vestry.

Mr. John Ferry, Mr. William Wilkinson, Mr. Richard Cromwell, Mr. Richard Sampson, Mr. John Hayes, Mr. Ni. Corban. Taxables 218."

(*Md. Hist. Mag.,* V. 290.)

The oldest of the parish records are now preserved in the Library of the Maryland Historical Society, while other early parish records of the Province are to be found in the Diocesan Library in Baltimore.

While it is undoubtedly true that the Quakers and the established church were the two most powerful religious bodies in

the Catonsville region in the early years, there must also have been a few families that belonged to other religious denominations. The Lutherans,, for instance, must have gradually increased in numbers throughout the Colonial period.

The Catholic church at first had very little influence in this neighborhood, its chief strength at that time being in the lower counties. But later on the number of Catholics became quite considerable in and about Catonsville. The Carroll family were probably largely instrumental in bringing about this result, and hence it is very likely that in their private family archives there is much material to be found that bears on this subject.

It is to be remarked that the early church records are of great importance in historical and especially in genealogical research, for in them (and not in the Colonial Court records) are to be found the births, baptisms, confirmations, marriages and burials. Where the churches themselves are surrounded by burying-grounds the tombstones also afford many important records not otherwise known. In this connection it should be noted that in the marine plain contiguous to the Bay no rocks suitable for carving into tombstones are to be found. Hence at first tombstones were practically unknown in Maryland, and only on rare occasions were they imported from England.

Private burying-grounds were the rule at this time, but with the dying out or removal of the respective families in later years they have almost entirely disappeared. It is noteworthy that no tombstone inscriptions from the neighborhood of Catonsville are to be found in H. W. Ridgely's *Historic Graves of Maryland* (New York, 1908). Those that may once have existed in Colonial times must all have long since been removed.

XVII. *Wills and Other Records*

In addition to Land Records and Church Records there are many other kinds of official and unofficial records which may throw light on the events of Colonial times although unfortunately most of them have remained unpublished up to the present time.

Chief among these records are probably the wills officially recorded after probate in many places. At Annapolis quite a large number of Colonial wills have been copied in the old records, while others are to be found in London and elsewhere. The originals have probably for the most part perished by this time.

One reason for the widely scattered condition of those wills that have been preserved is the very obvious fact that a man might reside in one place and own property in many others. Thus some of those who came to Maryland in the early years owned property in England and Virginia as well as in the new Province; and settlers in the older counties not infrequently patented or purchased tracts of land in the newly formed and outlying counties. This latter was evidently true in the case of the Catonsville region.

In most wills the various members of the testator's family are usually enumerated, and also perhaps a few other relatives or friends. Then, too, the names of executors, witnesses, etc., oftentimes give much additional information of interest to the historian.

In many instances in the early days the testator made a verbal will in the presence of witnesses, and these latter afterwards had the will written out and duly recorded as nuncupative.

By the direction of the Lord Proprietor all Maryland wills were required to be recorded at the City of St. Mary's, or later at Annapolis, and not in the records kept at the various county seats, as is now the custom. Hence Colonial Maryland wills are to be primarily sought at Annapolis, and not elsewhere.

We know from the early wills whose abstracts have been published in the Maryland Calendar of Wills, Vols. 1 to 3, that the following testators owned tracts of land on Hunting Ridge as Catonsville was then called:

In 1698, James Jackson owned "Vast Thicket."
In 1698 George Ashman owned "Ashman's Hope."
In 1700 Philip Griffin owned "Bacon Ridge."

An amusing touch as to love-making in Colonial times is found in the following will:

Jane Long lived in Baltimore County towards the end of the seventeenth century, and feeling no doubt that her life was drawing to a close she made her will on May 19, 1696. As it was probated in court on June 3, 1696, she must have died soon after signing the document in question. She distributes her property to her children, grand-children and various other persons in much the usual way. But her daughter, Tabitha was evidently a cause for parental displeasure, for to her she leaves certain personal property "provided she does not marry George Chaney."

Who this lover may have been, or what was the outcome of this romance does not appear. We only know that a certain Richard Chaney witnessed a will in Anne Arundel County on February 16, 1698; and we may perhaps infer that the latter was the young lover's father or some other close relative.

Colonial court records of all kinds contain much valuable historical information, and a long series of volumes has been published in recent years under the general title of *Archives of Maryland,* so that in many instances it is no longer necessary to consult the timeworn originals.

The great scarcity of the ordinary necessities of life is evidenced in many of the early wills and inventories by the enumeration of personal belongings which at the present day would be considered too trivial for mention. Thus one Andrew Baker, carpenter, who died on August 20, 1638, and whose estate was inventoried on August 22, was possessed among other things of one handkerchief, three pairs of old scissors,

an old hat, and four neck-cloths. Again in the inventory entered on September 29, 1649, of the estate of John Tompson there are mentioned three pairs of shoes, three pairs of stockings, a bag, a towel, two old waistcoats, and three shirts, besides a "parcel of bookes" and various other articles.

Sometimes the records have preserved curious information of other sorts. Thus on September 29, 1649. Mr. Richard Browne had officially registered his mark for cattle and hogs, namely the right ear cropped and a piece taken away before the two nicks underneath, and a hole in the left ear and two nicks in the fore part of the ear. Our sympathy goes out to the poor animals who were thus thoroughly marked to establish ownership. Similar markings on cows at large might be seen a few years ago by those who traveled the Frederick Turnpike in Howard County.

We even find the name of a cow mentioned on January 24, 1647, when Leonard Calvert, Esq., sold to John Hatch "one black cow with two white futtlocks behind, and called by the name of Tage-tayle." This important document is signed by no less a personage than the far-famed "Margarett Brent."

Again in an account of the estate of Richard Coxe deceased brought into court on January 24, 1647, we find that "an iron pott and skillett" were valued at four times as much as the price paid for digging the grave.

The private archives of the various branches of the Carroll family undoubtedly contain much valuable information bearing on the early history of the Catonsville district. Some of these documents are preserved at Doughoregan Manor in Howard county, some are in the possession of Miss Virginia Scott McTavish of Rome, Italy, and some are in the Library of the Maryland Historical Society. Still others are in the Library of the Johns Hopkins University, and in the libraries of a large number of autograph collectors.

It is finally to be noted that private genealogical research into family history has in some instances made readily accessible a large number of biographical details belonging to the Colonial period.

XVIII. *Early Testators*

As it is very evident that the chief tide of emigration to the Catonsville neighborhood was that which spread northward from Anne Arundel County, it will be a matter of no little importance in tracing family histories from the earliest times to have some knowledge of the oldest testators of the near-by county.

The following list has been compiled from the Maryland Calendar of Wills, and is intended to contain in alphabetical order the names of all such testators who drew up wills down to the year of 1680, and which were officially recorded. It is, of course, quite likely that many other wills were made in those years which never came to be probated, and of which consequently we have no official record; but the following list is nevertheless long enough to be of value in connection with the early history of Catonsville. The date given after each testator's name is that on which the will was made, unless it is otherwise stated.

Allenby, Phillip, Oct. 12, 1664.
Anderas, William H., Dec. 3, 1674.
Bassell or Bussell, Ralph, Feb. 10, 1665.
Beard, Richard, July 24, 1675.
Beedle, Henry, Herring Creek, May 29, 1674.
Beedle, Sophia, widow of Henry Beedle, Dec. 30, 1674.
Bennett, Richard, nuncupative will probated Jan. 14, 1676.
Besson Thomas, Sr. South River, Oct. 16, 1677.
Billingsley, Susan, widow of James Billingsley, Dec. 7, 1663.
Birckhead, Christopher, will made in England, probated in Maryland, May 26, 1676.
Brown, John, Nov. 17, 1673.
Browne, John, March 31, 1668.
Bruton, Dorothy, Nov. 19, 1674.
Burger, Joseph, of Wilts, Eng., and A. A. Co., Md., Oct. 22, 1672.
Burle, Robert, April 25, 1672.
Bushby, Dr. Robert, Severn River, June 13, 1674.

Chandler, William, Jan. 25, 1668.
Chew, Col. Samuel, July 26, 1676.
Clarke, Neale, Sept. 26, 1675.
Coale, William, Oct. 26, 1678.
Collier, William, April 8, 1676.
Collings, George, Nov. 16, 1670.
Crouch, William, Oct. 15, 1675.
Cumber, John, Nov. 20, 1676.
Davis, William, Mar. 15, 1680.
Dawson, Abraham, Mar. 19, 1675.
Dearing, John, Feb. 9, 1670.
Debanke, Samuel, Nov. 6, 1678.
Delap, Adam, Feb. 15, 1670.
Drewry, William, Aug. 22, 1676.
Drue, Emanuel, Aug. 3, 1669.
Edwards, John, May 13, 1670.
Eldridge, William, Mar. 11, 1665.
Ewen, John, Apr. 6, 1669.
Gardner, Alexander, Apr. 10, 1675.
Gardner, Edward, Oct. 9, 1675.
Gott, Richard, Herring Creek, Nov. 28, 1660.
Grant, William, Dec. 19, 1671.
Grimes, William, Mar. 25, 1676.
Grosse, John, Dec. 4, 1675.
Hanson, William, Sept. 9, 1680.
Harding, Mathew, Feb. 22, 1672.
Harniss, Susanna, Feb. 8, 1678.
Harniss, William, South River, Mar. 22, 1675.
Harris, Moses, Feb. 21, 1672-3.
Hawkins, John, Feb. 3, 1670.
Hawkins, Ralph, Sr., Sept. 19, 1669.
Hoges, Symon, Mar. 25, 1676.
Howard, Cornelius, Apr. 15, 1680.
Howerton, John, March 19, 1675.
Huggins, Richard, Feb. 3, 1669.
Johnson, Francis, Feb. 10, 1676.
Jones, Thomas, Aug. 4, 1675.
Keely, John, Nov. 25, 1674.

Kinsey, Hugh, May 6, 1667.
Lawrence, Charles, July 24, 1676.
Lewis, Henry, Feb. 3, 1678.
Luffman, William, Feb. 4, 1675.
Lusby, Robert, Feb. 26, 1674.
Martin, Thomas, Mar. 16, 1667.
Meers, John, Apr. 17, 1675.
Meers, Thomas, Severn River, May 16, 1674.
Minter, John, Jan. 25, 1669.
Morley, Joseph, Apr. 4, 1672.
Mosse, Richard, May 1, 1675.
Neale, Dr. Jacob, July 11, 1672.
Neale, Jonahan, Apr. 4, 1680.
Neale, William, Dec. 4, 1675.
Nettlefould, George, July 3, 1674.
Norman, George, Jan. 13, 1675.
Paully, Lyonel, Mar. 18, 1670-71.
Peart, John, Feb. 20, 1667.
Puddington, George, South River, Aug. 15, 1674.
Rawbone, Margaret, Nov. 7, 1675.
Reads, William, Nov. 7, 1674.
Ricks, John, Nov. 22, 1677.
Rigbie, James, Nov. 8, 1680.
Robertson, John, South River, Mar. 10, 1678-79.
Roper, Thomas, Sept. 19, 1677.
Simmons, George, Apr. 2, 1679.
Sison, John, no dates given, but very early.
Slade, William, May 15, 1675.
Smith, Nathaniel, Herring Creek, Apr. 10, 1672.
Sparrow, Thomas, Jan. 1, 1674.
Stinchcomb, Nathaniel, June 11, 1670.
Stockett, Thomas, Apr. 23,1671.
Strong, George, Nov. 21, 1671.
Talbott, Richard, West River, Apr. 2, 1663.
Taylor, Daniel, Aug. 18, 1676.
Thomas, Philip, Sept. 9, 1674.
Thorley, Edward, Dec. 11, 1678.
Townehill (Towhill), Edmond, Apr. 6, 1661.

Warner, James, Feb. 13, 1673.
Waterman, Nicholas, Mar. 8, 1670.
Wattkins, Thomas, South River, Apr. 15, 1679.
Wells, Richard, Sr., June 22, 1667.
Wells, Richard, May 11, 1671.
White, James, Dec. 29, 1672.
White, Stephen, Sept. 1, 1676.
Williams, Ralph, Bristol, Eng., and A. A. Co., Md., Aug. 13, 1672.
Withers, Samuel, Mar. 23, 1670.
Wyatt, Nicholas, Dec. 10, 1671.

On comparing the above list with that of the Quakers in Maryland before 1680 given in a previous article it will be noticed that only a few of the names occur in both lists. This circumstance is no doubt to be accounted for by the poverty of the early Quakers, which made the making and probating of wills seem superfluous; and also by the fact that many of them resided outside the limits of Anne Arundel County.

XIX. *South Side of the Patabsco*

As the incoming tide of emigration reached the Patapsco River about the middle of the seventeenth century it turned towards the upper portion of its estuary until it arrived at the extreme limit of tide-water, where navigation was impeded by the shallowness of the stream.

The first general movement was that made up the valley of Jones Falls resulting in the settlement of the northern portion of Baltimore County, and culminating later in the city of Baltimore itself.

The next advance was that up the main falls of the Patapsco River, which resulted in the settlement of the northern portion of the counties of Anne Arundel and Howard, and the south-western portion of Baltimore County. At the time in question, however, this whole region was known as Baltimore County, and hence it is under that name that we must seek information in the records.

One of the most noteworthy facts of the emigration to this region was that the southern bank of the river was the first to attract settlers in considerable numbers. It will hence be of interest to investigate these early settlements to the south.

But before proceeding to any consideration of persons and places it will be most fitting to say a few words about the Colonial custom of giving individual names to all land grants. In England at least as early as the Norman Conquest in 1066 A. D. it was usual to bestow names on all manors, and smaller holdings naturally followed suit. When Maryland was settled centuries later the English brought this old custom with them, and ever since original land grants have had names officially bestowed upon them.

Many of these appellations were whimsical in the extreme, and a study of them will reveal striking instances of odd conceits in name-giving. Thus "Traps for the Old Fox" is a grant near the Catonsville of today, and "The Neck of the Bottle" is also not far distant. Dr. Wm. Hand Browne, to whom much of the above information is due, states that a tract for generations in his family was named "Neglect" for no reason now apparent. The old homestead of his ancestors was called "Batchelor's Hope," one Batchelor being the first taker-up. "Hope" is a designation common in the north of England, and it is equivalent to the Scotch "howf," a safe or sheltered spot. "Charlie's Hope" is the name of a place mentioned in Sir Walter Scott's novel of Guy Manering, and similar names occur frequently in Maryland.

Many of these names are of a decidedly practical cast, but others are much more poetical in their nature. Thus "Maiden's Choice" and "Maiden's Dairy" are rather pleasing, and "Nancy's Fancy" has quite a fine ring to it even if it is somewhat of a jingle.

It frequently happened that the same name was picked out for more than one tract of land, and this oftentimes leads to confusion, especially so if the grants are not far distant from each other. Even today it is quite a common thing to find these old names mentioned in the deeds transferring property from one owner to another.

Some of the Baltimore County grants on the south side of the Patapsco River are the following:

1662, Apr. 2, Curtiss's Neck surveyed for Paul Kinsey, 200 acres.

1667, Oct. 3, Radkage surveyed for George Yates, 160 acres.

1667, Oct. 26, Pole Almeneck Neck surveyed for Wm. Davis, 100 acres.

1669, June 9, Batchelor's Hope surveyed for John Tennall, 100 acres.

1669, June 23, Hockley surveyed for William Ebden, 100 acres.

1670, Apr. 30, Treadhaven Point surveyed for Tho. Richardson, 150 acres.

1670, July 5, Homewood's Range surveyed for John Homewood, 300 acres.

1670, Oct. 11, Maskall's Haven surveyed for R. Maskall, 100 acres.

1670, Dec. 10, Cromwell's Adventure surveyed for John and William Cromwell, 300 acres.

1671, Apr. 30, United Friendship surveyed for John Grange, 300 acres.

1671, Sept. 14, Little Town surveyed for Robt. Wilson, 30 acres.

1672, Apr. 1, Paul's Neck surveyed for Paul Kinsey.

1672, May 10, Boon's Adventure surveyed for Humphry Boon, 160 acres.

1672, July 12, Ball's Enlargement surveyed for Wm. Ball.

1673, Jan. 20, Parker's Range surveyed for Quinton Parker, 330 acres.

1678, Nov. 3, White's Addition surveyed for Step. White, 180 acres.

1679, July 6, Hawkins' Range surveyed for Wm. Hawkins, 100 acres.

1680, Aug. 1, Southcanton surveyed for Clarkson, 245 acres.

1683, May 22, Rockhold's Range surveyed for Jno. Rockhold, 200 acres.

1683, May 26, Hawkins' Choice surveyed for Wm. Hawkins, 134 acres.

1685, Dec. 21, The Range surveyed for Henry Constable, 240 acres.

1686, Nov. 15, Coxe's Range surveyed for Christopher Cox, 200 acres.

1695, June 6, Smith's Addition surveyed for Edward Smith, 45 acres.

1702, Mar. 9, Young's Locust Plains surveyed for John Young, 140 acres.

1732, June 6, White Oak Spring surveyed for John Hammond, 161 acres.

XX. *Early Hunting Ridge Grants*

Having settled in considerable numbers on the south bank of the Patapsco, the best lands were soon taken and tobacco planters began to turn longing eyes to the north bank of the stream with its background of high wooded hills on Hunting Ridge.

At first the advance into the wilderness was rather timid and only a few tracts near the river were taken up. But soon the pressure of the increasing population became greater, and towards the end of the seventeenth century the settlers came in with a rush and soon took possession of all the choicest lands along the large streams and the existing Indian trails.

The meagre indications in the land records and the wills of early testators serve only to whet the appetite for further information, and this is in part supplied by the later records and surveyor's plats which oftentimes refer back to older conditions.

Many of the original patents granted by Lord Baltimore describe the land in question as being located on Hunting Ridge, and these descriptions afford a basis for work in discovering the location of the various tracts. Other patents state that the land described adjoins tracts already known, and thus further data can be secured. More modern records finally enable us to locate a few additional land grants.

In this way it has been possible to make out quite a list of land grants on Hunting Ridge by the year 1700 A. D. In the

following list the date of survey is first given then the tract name, and then the owner's name and the number of acres thus patented. These various items have been derived from Lord Baltimore's Rent Rolls preserved in the Land Office at Annapolis and in the Library of the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore.

LIST OF LAND GRANTS

1667, Oct. 20, Roper's Increase surveyed for Thomas Roper, 300 acres.

1673, Aug. 17, Maiden's Choice surveyed for Thomas Cole, 450 acres.

1677, Oct. 11, Pierce's Encouragement surveyed for John Pierce, 1000 acres.

1678, Mar. 23, The Forrest surveyed for Tho. Taylor, 1800 acres.

1683, June 15, Yates His Forbearance surveyed for George Yates, 770 acres.

1694, Oct. 10, Brown's Adventure surveyed for Tho. Browne, 1000 acres.

1694, Oct. 10, Owen's Adventure surveyed for Capt. Richard Owen, 450 acres.

1694, Oct. 12, Vauxhall surveyed for Stephen Benson, 200 acres.

1694, Nov. 12, Atholl surveyed for James Murray, 617 acres.

1694, Nov. 30, Ashman's Hope surveyed for George Ashman, 512 acres.

1695, Feb. 10, Hector's Fancy surveyed for Hector McLain, 100 acres.

1695, Feb. 20, Maiden's Dairy surveyed for Thomas Hooker, 248 acres.

1695, Feb. 20, Slade's Camp surveyed for Wm. Slade, 185 acres.

1695, Mar. 10, Cordwinder's Hall surveyed for Nich. Fitzsimmon's, 300 acres.

1695, Mar. 15, Morning's Choice surveyed for John Scutt, 400 acres.

1695, Aug. 9, Hope's Lott surveyed for Geo. Hope, 200 acres.

1695, Aug. 29, Smith's Forrest surveyed for Edward Smith, 212 acres.

1695, Oct. 16, Parker's Pallace surveyed for Robert Parker, 500 acres.

1695, Oct. 19, Cromwell's Range surveyed for Richard Cromwell, 200 acres.

1695, Oct. 25, Johnson's Interest surveyed for Anthony Johnson, 360 acres.

1695, Oct. 25, Murray's Addition surveyed for James Murray, 89 acres; 1720, Jan. 12, resurveyed into Bailey's Inheritance.

1695, Oct. 30, Beare's Thickett surveyed for James Jackson, 100 acres.

1695, Oct. 30, Brothers' Unity surveyed for Geo. Hollingsworth, 100 acres.

1696, Mar. 28, Christian's Lott surveyed for John Christian, 100 acres.

1699, Mar. 11, Crowley's Contrivance surveyed for Daniel Denniss Crowley, 200 acres.

1699, Mar. 11, Cuckoldmaker's Palace surveyed for Patrick Murphy, 100 acres.

1699, Mar. 11, Scutt's Addition surveyed for John Scutt, 100 acres.

1699, Sept. 8, Robbin's Camp surveyed for Robert Rogers, 100 acres.

1699, Dec. 1, Crowley's First Venture surveyed for Danl. Crowley, 100 acres.

1700, June 16, Bought Witt surveyed for Hector M'Lane, 40 acres.

1700, July 29, White Hall surveyed for Richard King, 100 acres.

On looking over the list just given several rather significant facts may be noted. At first the tendency was towards very large tracts, 1800 acres being the upper limit, but as choice land became scarcer the size gradually diminished until 100 acres

became the norm for a plantation. Only two grants of 89 and 40 acres fall below this norm.

The total number of acres granted during this period from 1667 to 1700 was 10,933 acres divided among 31 tracts, or an average of a trifle over 350 acres to a grant. As this land must have been for the most part covered with virgin forest, the prospective settler had many material difficulties to contend with before his plantation could be in large part cultivated.

In the course of time these large tracts of land were divided and subdivided, until at the present day it is rather unusual to find a farm of more than 100 acres, those that are larger being chiefly woodland.

On glancing at the dates it will be noted that 1695 was the banner year for the incoming settlers, as no less than thirteen grants were obtained within twelve months.

In the year 1700 there were still about 15,000 acres of unclaimed land on Hunting Ridge, its total area being about 25,000 acres.

XXI. *Later Hunting Ridge Grants*

Before the first colonists left England the Lord Proprietor had given out his first "conditions of plantation," or terms on which land grants would be made to settlers. These terms were modified from time to time as suggested by changing conditions in the Province, until in 1683 the rule was established that title to land could be acquired only after the payment of caution or purchase money.

Any person entitled to land by the "conditions of plantation" in force at the time in question was in the first place required to record his right in the land office. After this a warrant of survey signed by the proper official was issued, and when this had been made by the surveyor or his deputy a certificate was returned to the office which described boundaries, etc. The contents of this document were then inserted in a patent, which was in the nature of a deed and gave the consideration for which the grant was made and the conditions of tenure.

Land from which grants were made by the Lord Proprietor to the settlers was known as "vacant land" to distinguish it from the "reserves," and was left uncultivated until some one came to claim it in due form.

The first comers selected the most rich and fertile land without regard to the regularity of its area, or to making it in any way coincide with the boundary of land previously granted. And indeed many later surveys unwittingly overlapped elder ones, which led in time to many complications and difficulties between rival claimants.

In the course of a century or so most of the "vacant land" still open to settlers consisted of small irregular patches of the very poorest quality, and it is these that were commonly found included in the later land grants.

Although rules were made for the guidance of the early surveyors, yet in after years it was frequently discovered that the amount of land included in the early certificates of survey exceeded what it had been intended to grant. Such excess became known as "surplus land," and it arose from the surveyor's practice of stating the distance from one boundary to another on erroneous measurement, or by estimate without any measurement at all. It seems in fact that the benefit of the doubt was usually given very liberally to the proposing settler.

When such excess was discovered at some later date it was oftentimes required of the owner to have a resurvey made to determine the exact amount and dimensions of his land. Again, if an owner died without leaving any heirs, or if he failed to pay his quit-rent for some years, the original grant was escheated back to the Lord Proprietor and might be sold by him to some other settler.

Towards the end of the Colonial period land speculations became a feature of the situation, and almost all of the "vacant land" still remaining was taken up in large but irregularly shaped tracts by a few great land companies formed by influential men of the province. (See N. D. Mereness, *Maryland as a Proprietory Province,* pp. 49-75.)

LISTS OF GRANTS CONTINUED

1701, May 1, Canon's Delight surveyed for Jno. Cannon, 150 acres; 1751, Dec. 13, resurveyed for Daniel Dulany, 156 acres.

1701, Oct., Gallaway surveyed for Dennish McDaniell, 100 acres.

1701, Nov. 3, Buck Range surveyed for Mathew Hawkins, 160 acres.

1702, Aug. 22, The Tanyard surveyed for Nath. Stinchicomb, 393 acres.

1704, July 10, Nathaniell's Parke surveyed for Nathaniell Stinchcomb, 600 acres.

1705, Apr. 22, The Land of Goshen surveyed for John Israel, 320 acres.

1706, Feb. 28, Yate's Addition surveyed for John Yates, 87 acres.

1707, May 8, Cannon's Lott surveyed for Jno. Cannon, 200 acres.

1707, Oct. 27, Johnson's Range surveyed for Thomas Johnson, 100 acres.

1720, Feb. 10, Buckridge surveyed for Christopher Gardiner, 400 acres.

1720, Sept. 30, Marshe's Victory surveyed for John Marsh, 200 acres.

1731, Nov. 28, Georgia resurveyed for Charles Carroll, 2368 acres.

1731, Dec. 2, Frederickstadt surveyed for Benjamin Tasker, 920 acres.

1732, Sept. 7, Liverpool surveyed for James Gardiner, 50 acres.

1744, July 26, Batchellor's Fear surveyed for Zachariah Maccubbin and Edward Norwod, 256 acres.

1748, July 10, Frederickstadt Enlarged resurveyed for Benjamin Tasker, 4,870 acres.

1762, Sept. 18, Teal's Meadow surveyed for Emanuel Teal, 25 acres.

1767, Oct. 20, The Great Glade surveyed for Danl. Dulany, 150 acres.

1771, Feb. 12, Traps for the Old Fox resurveyed for Alexander Wells, 88 acres.

1787, Oct. 11, Bowden's Liberty surveyed for John Bowden, 50 acres.

1821, Nov. 11, Dorsey's Terra Firma surveyed for Reuben M. Dorsey, 428 acres.

In addition to those already mentioned there were probably other tracts of land on Hunting Ridge which have not yet been identified with any of those in Lord Baltimore's Rent Rolls, or which are of later date than the latter. The following are some unidentified grants: Anthony's Delight, Bacon Ridge, Enlargement, Fox Hall, Marshe's Victory Enlarged, Roger's Camp, Skimore's Adventure, Tile's Choice and Vast Thicket.

Bacon Ridge is mentioned in the will of Philip Griffin made on Nov. 20, 1700; Fox Hall is perhaps the same as Vauxhall; Roger's Camp is probably the same as Robbin's Camp; and Vast Thicket is mentioned in the will of James Jackson made probably in 1698. This last can almost certainly be identified with the Beare's Thickett surveyed for the testator in 1695.

XXII. *Location of Early Land Grants*

Locating the original land grants is at the present time a matter of considerable difficulty, but in the case of Hunting Ridge the problem is fortunately much simplified for us by a large and detailed surveyor's plat made by one Samuel Green and dated May 27, 1811. The original of this plat is still preserved at Annapolis, and through the kindness of Mr. Edward Vincent Coonan of Baltimore access was had to a carefully made copy of this original. From the above-mentioned documents with some assistance from other sources of information, the following facts have been gleaned.

Roper's Increase was a rectangular tract whose four sides were nearly equal and ran in the four main directions of the compass. It was located a short distance north of the Patapsco River and west of Dearing's Cove, and lay directly south of the

present Carroll on the Frederick Turnpike. It was laid off in 1667 for 300 acres.

Maiden's Choice was a square tract whose sides ran north-northwest, west-southwest, south-southeast, and east-northeast. It was laid out in 1673 for 450 acres, and was located on either side of Maiden's Choice Run, which was doubtless named after it in later times. In a general way it comprised the present Loudon Park Cemetery, but it also extended to the north side of the Frederick Turnpike and even crossed the Old Frederick Road at one point. The general directions of its boundaries varied from that of all the other Colonial grants on Hunting Ridge.

Pierce's Encouragement lay along the Patapsco further to the west, and was a long narrow tract of a thousand acres extending from the neighborhood of the Relay House to Hause's Dam, or thereabouts. It was laid out in 1677 and was the first of a series of very large grants which trended off in a northwesterly direction. It early attained to considerable importance, and by the year 1811 was adjoined on the southwest by the settlement on the Patapsco River called Dorsey's Forge.

The Forrest was a huge rectangular tract of 1800 acres laid out in 1687 along the entire northeast side of Pierce's Encouragement. Its easternmost corner was only a short distance west of Roper's Increase, while its extreme northern point almost touched the present Frederick Turnpike near the Terminus.

Yates His Forbearance, Yates' Addition and Yates' Enlargement were three tracts adjoining one another and lying to the northward of Roper's Increase. The easternmost line of the latter seems to have been extended to the north for a considerable distance, and thence due west, as the three tracts were surveyed in the order given, until the neighborhood of The Forest was at length reached. Thence the boundary line returned to Roper's Increase by a very irregular course.

The tracts so far described (with the exception of Maiden's Choice, which lay detached) formed a continuous although irregular stretch of territory extending from the bank of the Patapsco River south of Carroll to the region of Ilchester. They

may thus in a sense be considered to form the southern boundary of the Greater Catonsville of today, although they included a small area now in the southwestern corner of Baltimore city, and although they for the most part lay a considerable distance south of the Frederick Turnpike, at present the main artery of the whole Hunting Ridge region.

Thus far we have dealt only with the preliminary onset of the incoming settlers which blazed the trail as it were for those to follow. There next came a lull of about ten years; and then suddenly a host of land seekers rushed in and within thirteen months time had scattered here and there over the whole of Hunting Ridge.

In the autumn of 1694 came the survey of Brown's Adventure with its 1000 acres. This tract was located to the northeast of The Forest, and also touched and partly over-lapped the Yates tracts on the south. Its general shape was that of a square plus a rectangle extending far to the northwest. The Maiden's Choice road from Paradise to beyond Wilkens avenue now extends along its northeastern boundary. Its northernmost limit, therefore, seems to have been the place upon which Mr. Gustav Liebig built a handsome residence about a quarter of a century ago. From this point it extended no doubt to the main entrance to Spring Grove Asylum, whence its boundary line turned abruptly to the southeast. By far the larger portion of this important grant lay to the south of Wilkens avenue, and it even extended to the neighborhood of Arbutus Station.

On the same day as the preceding tract there was surveyed Owen's Adventure, which was evidently intended to take up a rectangular parcel of land lying between The Forest and the northwestern extension of Brown's Adventure. It was intended to contain 450 acres, but the inaccuracies in the survey caused it to overlap Brown's Adventure, while its northwestern boundary seems to have been given a direction too far towards the north. Its northern point almost reached the Frederick Turnpike at a point opposite Eden Terrace, and the greater portion of the Spring Grove Asylum property was a part of this tract. On the south it extended some distance beyond Wilkens avenue until it adjoined Brown's Adventure on this side also.

Two days after the two preceding Vauxhall was laid out for 200 acres to the west of Gwynn's Falls and a short distance to the south of Wilkens avenue.

On November 12, 1694, the now familiar name of Atholl was added to the list. It comprised 617 acres, and this definite figure shows that the surveyors were beginning to aim at greater accuracy in their calculation of land areas. This was a square tract lying on both sides of Maiden's Choice Run and of the Frederick Turnpike, but by mistake largely over-lapping the western portion of Maiden's Choice. Part of its northwestern boundary is still plainly marked by the fence which comes down the steep hill below North Bend, and which begins at an angle in Mr. Blanchard Randall's place. To the east this tract reached Irvington, and to the north Mrs. Henry Barton Jacobs' place.

On the last day of November, 1694, Ashman's Hope was laid out for 512 acres. It was a long wedge-shaped tract with its point toward the southeast. It included most of the Franklintown region, Lorraine Cemetery, Colonial Park Estates, and the adjacent territory along the Franklintown branch of Gwynn's Falls.

XXIII. *The Banner Year of 1695*

During this one year Hunting Ridge was really "settled" in the best and broadest sense of the word, for it was then that the finest farming lands were in general taken up.

The rush began early, for on February 10, Hector's Fancy was laid off for 100 acres adjoining the northwestern side of Athol and beginning at its northernmost point. It was a long narrow tract which included the country place of Mrs. Henry Barton Jacobs and the neighborhood of Cook's Lane and the Old Frederick Road.

On February 20 Maiden's Dairy was surveyed for 248 acres on what was long known as the "oystershell road" to Franklin. It extended approximately from the Johnnycake Road to Franklin, and was opposite the Crosby place known as Rockland

Farm. The name of Maiden's Dairy clung to this grant until only a few years ago.

On the very same day Slade's Camp was laid out for 185 acres and was nearly rectangular in shape. It lay just northwest of Athol and southwest of Hector's Fancy, with its longest dimension running from northeast to southwest. As nearly as at present identified this grant included the land on both sides of the Frederick Turnpike above, at and below North Bend. It thus comprised the front of Mr. Blanchard Randall's place, Tower Hill the James place, the various small tracts along North Bend Lane, and the old Chappell place now known as Ten Hills. The Edmonson Avenue from the Old Frederick Road to Nunnery Lane seems to follow the northwestern boundary of this grant pretty closely.

On March 10 Cordwinder's Hall was surveyed for 300 acres in the indefinite region now known as the White Grounds. It extended from the westernmost corner of Ashman's Hope over to the neighborhood of the Johnnycake Road where it intersects the Rolling Road. It may, therefore, be considered perhaps to have formed the northwestern limit of Catonsville taken in a large sense.

On March 15 Morning's Choice was laid off for 400 acres, and its quaint name would seem to indicate the time of day when its location was picked out by its future owner. It was an almost rectangular tract running off towards the northwest from a point near the northern corner of Athol, which it nevertheless did not touch at any point. A small portion of it lay south of the Old Frederick Road in the neighborhood of Athol Avenue, and it included Bonnie Brae Cemetery, Rognel Heights, and land near the Franklin Turnpike. Near the latter road it overlapped the extreme wedgelike point of Ashman's Hope. The greater part of this grant lay to the northward of Edmondson Avenue.

Hope's Lott was surveyed on August 9 for 200 acres, and it adjoined Slade's Camp on the northwest, being thus on the north side of Edmondson Avenue between Nunnery Lane and the Old Frederick Road. The latter cut through it in an irregular diagonal course in the neighborhood of St. Agnes'

Catholic Church. It thus included Mann's place, the Clayton place the McKim place, and much other land nearby, extending even into the Mount de Sales property in its northern portion.

On August 29 there was laid out a tract of land containing 212 acres to which was given the name of Smith's Forrest. This adjoined a number of earlier grants about as follows: it lay just southwest of Slade's Camp along a line running from a point near the southern end of Taylor's Lane across the Frederick Turnpike to Nunnery Lane at Edmondson Avenue; it lay also northwest of Brown's Adventure, but did not quite reach Owen's Adventure on the west; it touched the southwest corner of Hope's Lott. Thus it included the present Paradise development, the places on both sides of the Frederick Turnpike near Nunnery Lane, and the land on both sides of Nunnery Lane as far north as Edmondson Avenue.

Parker's Pallace was surveyed on October 16 and was intended to contain 500 acres. It was a rectangular tract whose length was about four times its width, and it adjoined Morning's Choice along its entire northeastern boundary and even extended some distance further towards the northwest. The southeastern boundaries of the two tracts were in a straight line.

Three days later Cromwell's Range was laid out for 200 acres in the neighborhood of the White Grounds. Further particulars have not been ascertained.

On October 25 Johnson's Interest was surveyed for 360 acres northward of the Old Frederick Road and near the Rolling Road. It appears to have been rectangular in shape and to have trended off in a direction slightly north of west. It probably included much of the Powers Lane section.

On the same day there was laid off Murray's Addition for 89 acres. It would appear that James Murray soon discovered that his grant of Atholl obtained in 1694 would lose about 200 of its 617 acres by overlapping with Maiden's Choice, and so he sought to indemnify himself as far as possible by adding on vacant land to the southwest. In this way he obtained the tract called Murray's Addition, which extended from Atholl to the present Maiden's Choice Road a short distance southeast of

Paradise. It thus included parts of Mr. Blanchard Randall's place, of the late Gen. John Gill's place, and other land nearby.

On October 30 there was surveyed a tract of 100 acres whose name is somewhat uncertain. It is hard at present to decide between Beare's Thickett, Ben's Thicket and Vast Thicket, all of which forms occur in the old documents. It lay in the angle between Ashman's Hope and Cordwinder's Hall, and was thus in the neighborhood of the Dogwood Road.

On the same day Brother's Unity was surveyed for 100 acres, but the reason for its name and its location on Hunting Ridge are alike unknown.

It is evident from the above eumeration that the year 1695 must have seen a great deal of prospecting and surveying on Hunting Ridge, and one can readily imagine that considerable difficulty was experienced in preventing the many contiguous tracts from overlapping each other through inaccurate and insufficient information concerning the various boundary lines.

XXIV. *Location of Later Land Grants*

After the passing of the banner year there was a lull for a time, followed by a revival of interest in the obtaining of land grants which continued for about ten years.

On March 28, 1696, Christian's Lott was surveyed for 100 acres. This was a rectangular tract lying in the angle formed by the Frederick Turnpike with the Patapsco River a short distance east of Ellicott City. It lay slightly off both from the Turnpike and the River, and probably included the country place of Mr. William M. Manly, as well as adjoining property.

On March 11, 1699, no less than three tracts were surveyed on Hunting Ridge as follows:

Rowley's Contrivance was laid out for 200 acres, but its location on Hunting Ridge has not yet been determined. It probably lay near Gwynn's Falls below the village of Franklin.

Cuckoldmaker's Pallace was laid out for 100 acres, but the location is uncertain.

Scut's Addition was likewise laid out for 100 acres "beg:

at ye S E corner of mornings choice," as we learn from Lord Baltimore's Rent Roll at Annapolis. From this we would infer that it was bounded on the northwest by Morning's Choice, on the southwest by Atholl, and on the south-southeast by Maiden's Choice (if it extended as far south as this). It thus probably included land on both sides of the Old Frederick Road in the neighborhood of St. Joseph's Monastery.

On September 8, 1699, Robbin's Camp was surveyed for 100 acres, and we may surmise from its name that the red-breasted robins were plentiful on it when viewed by its prospective owner on the September day in question. This rectangular tract lay in the neighborhood of the Rolling Road and the Old Frederick Road, being probably somewhere in their northwest angle. It was a short distance to the south-southwest of Johnson's Interest, but does not seem to have touched the last-named tract at any point.

On December 1, 1699, Crowley's First Venture was laid out for 100 acres adjoining Parker's Pallace on the northeast. The justification for the name does not appear on the surface, as its date is some months later than that of Crowley's Contrivance.

On June 16, 1700, there was surveyed a tract of land which was curiously enough named Bought Witt, and which contained only 40 acres. Lord Baltimore's Rent Roll adds " beg: at ye N W Corner Tree of the Land called Atholl." Perhaps this phrase may indicate that it comprised the long narrow strip of land between the earlier grants of Hector's Fancy and Morning's Choice. If so it would comprise the land on both sides of the Edmondson Avenue near the top of the long hill where it runs into the Old Frederick Road.

On July 29, 1700, White Hall was laid out for 100 acres. Of this tract we at present know only that it was situated on Hunting Ridge.

Cannon's Delight was surveyed on May 1, 1701, for 150 acres in the region of Ingleside Avenue, the Old Frederick Road and the Johnnycake Road. Its southernmost point was the sharp angle just north of the German Lutheran Church and forming a triangular lot at the southwest corner of the Old Frederick Road and Ingleside Avenue. From the point

mentioned one boundary line ran due north along Ingleside Avenue, while another ran northwest across the Old Frederick Road. This line continued until it reached Cordwainer's Hall about where the Kirk Crosby place touches the Rolling Road. From here the boundary returns by a zigzag course to the northern end of the line first mentioned. Cannon's Delight, therefore, included the greater portion of Ingleside now belonging to Mr. Bernard N. Baker.

In October of the same year Galloway was laid out for 100 acres, but its location on Hunting Ridge has not been ascertained.

On November 3, 1701, Buck Range was surveyed for 160 acres, and it included much of the finest residence section of the Catonsville of to-day. It was located on both sides of the Frederick Turnpike between Winter's Lane and the seven mile stone, but lay chiefly to the northward. Its easternmost boundary seems to have slanted off towards the northwest a trifle, and it is because of this that at the present time Winter's Lane, Melvin Avenue, Beaumont Avenue, etc., all run in a direction parallel to each other but not at right angles to the Turnpike. Towards the north Buck Range extended across Edmondson Avenue, and towards the south it included part of Gen. James A. Gary's country place. It was near this point that Catonsville later on obtained its modern name in lieu of the older Hunting Ridge.

On August 22, 1702, there was laid out a tract of 393 acres to which was given the descriptive name of The Tanyard. This large rectangular grant ran off towards the northwest, and included the land lying westward of the present Rolling Road a little to the north of the Frederick Turnpike. The Devere place was probably included in this survey, as well as a number of nearby tracts.

The Land of Goshen was surveyed for 320 acres on April 22, 1705, and lay about equally on both sides of the Frederick Turnpike, just west of Buck Range. It thus included Oak Forest Park, part of the Helfrich place, and other land in the neighborhood of the Terminus. It extended southwestward as far as the region of Hause's Dam, and thus adjoined The

Forrest along its northwestern boundary. To the northwest it adjoined The Tanyard likewise.

Cannon's Lott was surveyed on May 8, 1707, for 200 acres, and included most of the land on both sides of the Old Frederick Road westward from Ingleside Avenue to a point beyond Winter's Lane. Its general shape was that of a rectangle running east and west, but at its eastern end a point ran out to Ingleside Avenue along the line where it adjoined Cannon's Delight.

Buck Ridge was surveyed on February 10, 1720, for 400 acres and seems to have been situated to the southeast of Atholl and Murray's Addition, while adjoining Maiden's Choice to the eastward and Brown's Adventure to the westward. It was soon abandoned, however, and reverted to the Lord Proprietor as escheat land.

Several other tracts which were surveyed about this time have not as yet been definitely located on Hunting Ridge.

XXV. *The Last of the Vacant Land*

As the importance of Baltimore County became more manifest in the state at large it was thought advisable to lay out a town to serve as a central point, and therefore a site on the north side of the Basin was selected in 1729 and some sixty acres divided into lots.

It was no doubt a part also of this general movement that caused the formation of a large land company in Baltimore County. Originally it was called the Baltimore Iron Works Company and devoted itself largely to the making of iron; but later on the owning of land became its chief function, and its name was commonly shortened into the Baltimore Company simply.

This company at various times during the eighteenth century acquired by patent and purchase a vast amount of land, and towards the middle of the century annexed to its possessions practically all the vacant land on Hunting Ridge. The details of this operation will now be considered in brief outline.

First it was necessary to acquire the title to a grant whose validity was in doubt by reason of the overlapping of some older grant. Then in order to remedy this evident defect a special warrant was obtained from the Lord Proprietor to resurvey the tract in question and to indemnify the owner for his loss by adding on any adjacent vacant land. This latter permission was given a very broad interpretation, and starting from a moderate-sized grant there was added on an immense adjacent tract of land.

Two bites of the cherry after this fashion were enough to take up all the remaining land on Hunting Ridge to the extent of more than seven thousand acres. This being accomplished there remained only a few small scraps for those that came after.

The first operation of this sort was made by Charles Carroll, who acquired the title probably to an older grant and on November 28, 1731, had it resurveyed into Georgia as containing 2,368 acres. This resurvey embraced all the vacant land on the southeastern slope of Hunting Ridge. It adjoined Maiden's Choice, Vaux Hall, Anthony's Delight, Skimore's Adventure, and no doubt many others along the lower course of the Patapsco River and Gwynn's Falls near their point of juncture. As most of this land lies some distance from the Catonsville of to-day we need not pursue the matter further here.

We next come to the really important land grant in the history of Catonsville, namely that of Frederickstadt Enlarged, whose history is both complicated and highly instructive, but which can be only lightly touched upon in this place.

The origin of the name Frederickstadt is involved in obscurity, but we may readily imagine that at some time early in the eighteenth century a German emigrant selected the name in question because of some person or place in the Fatherland which was especially dear to him; and that it was adopted by the patentee of the tract now in question.

From the Annapolis records, Liber P. L., No. 8, p. 528, the following history of the grant is derived, the earlier documents not having been as yet located.

Benjamin Tasker of Annarundell County at some date shortly before August 1, 1732, made out a formal petition addressed to Charles the Lord Proprietor in which he claimed the following:

A certain George Baily of Baltimore County on January 4, 1720, obtained a special warrant to resurvey Athol and Murray's Addition with adjacent vacant land. On February 9, 1720, he assigned his right to the vacant land to a certain Josephus Murray, who in turn on the same day assigned his right to a certain Christopher Gardiner, who finally had surveyed on February 10, 1720, a tract of 400 acres called Buckridge. But the latter failed to make good his claim within the next ten years, and he thus forfeited all right to the land.

Benjamin Tasker then had a special warrant granted to himself on January 4, 1730, to have the above land resurveyed with the addition of adjacent vacant land. This warrant was renewed on July 9, 1731, for six months, and on December 2, 1731, was finally carried into effect by the survey of a tract of land containing 920 acres, to which was given the name Frederick Stadt. This grant began at the beginning tree of Atholl and was contained by twelve distinct boundary lines, lying in general to the southward of Atholl and Maiden's Choice.

After a time it was discovered that the resurvey just outlined overlapped certain elder surveys, and another resurvey (the really important one) was made for the same patentee.

From the Annapolis records, Liber Y & S., No. 7, pp. 16-20, it is learned that a special warrant was granted on March 14, 1747, to Col. Benjamin Tasker of the City of Annapolis and Company. In accordance with this Thomas White, Deputy Surveyor of Baltimore County, reported on July 10, 1748, that he had carefully resurveyed the tract of land called Frederickstadt according to its ancient meets and bounds as showed to him for 815 acres. But he stated further that 409 acres of this tract lay within the bounds of elder surveys, which had therefore been excluded by him, and that to the residue he had added the quantity of 4,461 acres of vacant land. These he had reduced into one tract containing 4,870 acres.

It will be noticed that the various figures given above do not tally with each other and do not therefore make up the proper total; but such variations occur quite commonly in the old surveys, and hence no especial importance is to be attached to them.

The original plat handed in by the deputy surveyor is still in existence in Annapolis, where it was examined on August 30, 1906, in the Land Commissioner's Office. This document has been handled so much in past years that it is now in bad condition and threatens to fall to pieces at no distant date. It is drawn on a very small scale, namely 100 perches to an inch, and gives but little information besides the mere boundary lines.

XXVI. *Boundaries of the Vacant Land*

Frederickstadt Enlarged included the last of the vacant land near Catonsville and is for this reason alone of some interest, but it is vastly more important as embracing the territory which was in the years to come to play the chief role in the development of the whole region.

The boundary line of this tract of land was exceedingly complicated, as it ran in and out between almost all of the preceding grants on Hunting Ridge. It will therefore be impracticable to give all of the courses, but a general idea of its boundaries and extent will suffice.

The point whence the survey started was " at the end of the North-east line of a Tract of Land called Brown's Adventure," then it followed the boundary of Yates His Forbearance and Georgia, thus including part of the original Frederickstadt south of Athol and the present Wilkens Avenue. One portion of the boundary followed up the valley of Gwynn's Falls, crossing and recrossing that stream several times. This resulted in the inclusion of a part of Walbrook, and of much land near Franklin. Arriving at a point somewhere near Powhatan, the boundary line struck off towards the southwest for several miles through the White Grounds until it reached the

Patapsco River above Oella. It thus adjoined Ashman's Hope and Cordwainer's Hall in the northwest region.

Next the line turned towards the southeast and approached Catonsville, and at this point we may take up the description in detail for a time, paragraphing and punctuating the original form here and there.

" Running thence . . . untill it intersects the Land called the Tanyard, thence Bounding on and with the Tanyard North thirty-seven degrees East one hundred and six perches to the third tree thereof, thence Still Bounding on and with the said Land North Twenty degrees East forty perches to the Second Tree thereof and also the beginning tree of the Land called Liverpool; "

" Thence Running and bounding on Liverpool the seven following courses, viz: south thirty degrees West forty-four perches, North-West fifty-eight perches, North thirty degrees East forty-seven perches, North eighty degrees East eight perches, North-East by North Ninety-four perches, North-East fourteen perches, south forty degrees East twenty-seven perches untill it intersects the first line of the Tanyard; "

" Thence bounding on and with the Tanyard North North-East sixty-five perches to the Beginning thereof in the given line of Roger's Camp, thence with the Given line of Roger's Camp West North-West thirty-four perches, thence still Bounding on the said Land North, North-East one hundred perches, thence still bounding on said land East South-East one hundred and sixty perches until it intersects the line of Cannon's Lott;"

" Thence bounding on Cannon's Lott North-East fifty-five perches to the second trees thereof also the Beginning of Johnson's Range and Bowden's Liberty, thence Reversing the Given line of Johnson's Range West North-West one hundred and sixty perches, still bounding on Johnson's Range North North-East one hundred perches, still bounding on the said land East south-East ninety perches untill it intersects Bowden's Liberty."

" Thence Bounding on Bowden's Liberty North by West twenty perches, thence still Bounding on the said Land East thirty-seven perches untill it intersects the Land called Batchellor's Fear; "

" Thence Bounding on and with Batchellor's Fear North-West fifty-two perches, still Bounding on the said Land North forty perches, Still Bounding on the said Land North-East by North twenty perches, Still Bounding on the said Land East forty perches to the Beginning thereof, thence Bounding on the given line of the said Land North thirty-eight degrees and thirty minutes East one hundred and seventy-five perches, thence Still bounding on and with the said Land the nine following courses (omitted) untill it again intersects Bowden's Liberty, thence Bounding on and with Bowden's Liberty South by East forty-nine perches, thence south forty-five degrees and Fifteen Minutes West Twenty-six perches to the third tree of Cannon's Lott;"

" Thence Bounding on and with Cannon's Lott South Seventy-five degrees East one hundred and thirty-four perches, thence south-East one hundred and ten perches, South-West one hundred and thirty perches, thence bounding on the given line of the said Land North Seventy-five degrees West twenty perches untill it intersects the Land called Buck Range;"

" Thence Boundig on and with Buck Range and the Land of Goshen South-East two hundred and fifty-six perches, thence bounding on and with the Land of Goshen South four degrees West one hundred and fifty perches until it intersects the North-West line of Taylor's Forrest sixty perches below the end of the said Line;"

" Thence reversing the said line and Bounding thereon South-east one hundred and four perches, thence Running to and Bounding on and with Owen's Adventure North-East two hundred and eighty-nine perches, still bounding on the said Land south-east thirty-six perches, thence Running to Brown's Adventure and Bounding thereon North-East one hundred and Seventy perches, thence by a straight line to the Beginning."

On the back of the foregoing certificate was the following receipt, viz:

Received of Charles Carroll, Esq: on account Daniel Dulany, Esq: and Company one hundred and twenty-eight pounds eight Shillings Sterling, which with thirteen Hundred and eighty-

two acres of Land Warrant due to the said Company, as per Certificate from the Register appears, is in full for the Caution of the within four Thousand eight Hundred and twenty acres of Land. Pattent may therefore issue to the above Daniel Dulany, Esq: and Company with his Excellency's Approbation, dated the 12th January, 1749.

Benja: Tasker.

Sam. Ogle, Chanr:
To the Register of the Land Office.

XXVII. *Location of the Vacant Land*

Having thus determined in a rough way the boundaries of Frederickstadt Enlarged, and having seen that it extended from Oella on the west to Gwynn's Falls on the east, and from Wilkens Avenue on the south to Franklin and Walbrook on the north, we may next turn our attention to the parts of the Catonsville region of to-day that were included in this gigantic but freakish land grant.

And here we may note as appropriate the well-known verse of the Bible which reads:

The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner.

St. Mark, 12.10.

Which being interpreted would mean in this case that the land which none of the early settlers considered it worth their while to own, has in the fullness of time become the most valuable of all the Catonsville district.

For to begin with, the whole central nucleus of the present village is built on Frederickstadt Enlarged. Both sides of the Frederick Turnpike from the six mile stone in East Catonsville to a point west of Winter's Lane, both sides of Ingleside Avenue from the Frederick Turnpike to the German Lutheran Church, both sides of Bloomsbury Avenue as far south as the railroad cut, both sides of Newburg Avenue to the bend belong to this land grant. This one tract thus includes almost all the

stores and churches of the village, the bank, all the schools, and many of the finest residences.

Again, the thickly settled region of Walbrook belongs in part to the same land grant, and this portion of it is probably destined to become exceedingly valuable in the future.

In the Oella district there are something like one thousand acres of Frederickstadt Enlarged, near Franklin there are hundreds of acres, and on Gwynn's Falls not far from the Edmondson Avenue bridge there are hundreds more belonging to this tract. This last mentioned land will no doubt soon be an integral part of Baltimore City as closely built up as any other portion.

Turning to the financial side of the question for a moment, we may note that in 1749 the Baltimore Company paid to the Lord Proprietor about six hundred and fifty dollars for some three thousand five hundred acres of land in this grant, or about twenty cents an acre. If we stop to consider what this same land is worth to-day, the result is surely astounding. None of it is probably worth less than one hundred dollars an acre, which is five hundred times the price paid for it one hundred and sixty-four years ago. The most valuable lots in business sections may perhaps be worth ten thousand dollars an acre, which is fifty thousand times the original price.

Again, if in addition to the value of the land we consider the value of the improvements, the result is still more surprising. A very small lot may have on it a building costing thousands upon thousands of dollars. Consider, for instance, the bank building, or the high school building, or some of the churches and residences in the village of Catonsville.

To arrive at the total valuation of the whole land grant at the present time would require much calculation and investigation by competent real estate experts, but we can hardly be far from the truth if we assert that it would run up into millions of dollars.

It has, of course, not been possible to identify each and every portion of the original grant with the land holdings as at present divided into farms and building lots, but some additional points at least may easily be fixed.

To take Ingleside Avenue, for instance, we may note the following facts:

Passing northward from the village the tract in question comprised the land about as far over as the western edge of Eden Terrace. This boundary line ran almost due north as far as the German Church, where it stopped at the eastern point of Cannon's Lott. The church property (including the graveyard) is thus the northernmost corner of Frederickstadt En larged in the neighborhood in question.

When Ingleside Avenue was laid out it ran parallel to the above-mentioned line for about half a mile, and then when it had arrived opposite to the southern corner of Cannon's Lott (where the two Lynch places and L. J. Keidel's place meet), it turned to the northeast until it came to the edge of Frederickstadt Enlarged at the top of the big hill, when it turned northward again along the boundary line already mentioned until it reached the edge of Cannon's Delight.

If we turn now to a consideration of the district south of the Frederick Turnpike, it is first of all to be noted that the Pike itself cuts off a large corner of Frederickstadt Enlarged from the body of the tract to the north. Starting at a point near the place of Mr. N. W. James the boundary line bears off towards the southwest until it comes to the Rolling Road, near which a right angel is formed, and then it runs northwest until it nears the Pike again nearly opposite Beaumont Avenue. The portion south of the Pike is thus in the main a large triangular tract, which includes about four hundred acres, and which has been largely built upon in later times.

Another large portion of the same grant lies near the junction of the Johnnycake Road with the Rolling Road, and a large rectangle is also situated between Ashman's Hope, Morning's Choice and Parker's Pallace further to the east.

These indications will suffice to give at least a faint idea of the importance and location of the last and most comprehensive land grant in the neighborhood of Catonsville.

XXVIII. *Later Resurveys*

In the early years of the colony land was so plentiful that the surveyors did not take much pains to be accurate in their work, and in consequence the boundaries of the first grants were run in a very careless manner. For one reason and another many owners abandoned their land from time to time, and this added to the general confusion.

Consequently new surveys oftentimes became necessary in order to settle disputes between neighbors, and to establish definitely the title to some given tract of land. Sometimes these resurveys merely attempted to follow out the old lines and to determine the number of acres contained in the original grant without change of name.

Such was the case when Cannon's Delight was resurveyed for Daniel Dulany on December 13, 1751. The original survey called for 150 acres, but when resurveyed it was found to contain 156 acres, a comparaitvely slight error under the circumstances. (*Cf.*, Baltimore County, Certificate No. 924, at Annapolis.)

When there were improvements on escheat land made by a previous owner the resurvey was required to make mention of them, and the new owner was obliged to pay their valuation to the Lord Proprietor, or in later times to the State government.

This happened in the Case of Cannon's Lott when it was resurveyed for John Pierpont on September 14, 1787, and received the new name of Cannon's Lott Resurveyed. The facts of the case have been preserved in an unpatented certificate at Annapolis, which contains in part the following information:

Originally it was surveyed for 200 acres, but on following out the lines again in 1787 it was found that they embraced 261¾ acres. By overlapping with the elder survey of Robbin's Camp towards the west some 3 acres had to be deducted, and hence the resurvey as finally constituted contained only 258¾ acres. The land and improvements are described and valued as follows:

REMUS ADAMS' BLACKSMITH SHOP.

Formerly on the site of the present Catonsville Grammar School.

" There is about three fourth of the above land cleared and much worn, the rest in woods. Chiefly thin soil, worth about 193.10.

" There is about 3000 pannels of old fence on said land, the greater part of little value, worth about 6"0"0. There is also about 240 apple Trees on said Land the greater part of them is small, worth about 5" 0" 0. There is also one small Dwelling House and Eleven more old houses partly rotten down scarcely worth notice, the whole worth about 10" 0" 0.

£214. 10. 0."

The values are of course given in English money, and the description is assuredly both quaint and interesting as affording a picture of Catonsville conditions shortly after the Revolutionary War. It may give us some notion of the havoc played by that long-proctracted struggle, and by the prodigal system of tilling the soil which was commonly followed in Colonial times.

Again we find that a later resurvey embraced portions of several original land grants, as is the case with Dorsey's Terra Firma. This tract of 428 acres lay in the neighborhood of the Rolling and Old Frederick Roads, and it seems to have embraced no vacant land whatever but was made up entirely of escheat land.

In the Land Office at Annapolis there is preserved the original surveyor's certificate (Baltimore County, No. 1481), which in describing the resurvey enumerates in part the following tracts:

" Part, in two parcels, of Tanyard, originally on the twenty second day of August one thousand seven hundred and two surveyed for Nathaniel Stinchcomb for three hundred ninety three acres; Teal's Meadow originally on the eighteenth day of September one thousand seven hundred and sixty-two granted Emanuel Teal for twenty five acres; Part, in two parcels, of Traps for the old Fox, originally on the twelfth day of February one thousand seven hundred and seventy one resurveyed for Alexander Wells, in three parcels, containing together eighty eight acres."

Dorsey's Terra Firma comprised, among many others, the Berger place, the Coblens place, and Glen Alpine. All of these lie on the west side of the Rolling Road as at present located.

The last two resurveys described above fall after the close of the Colonial period, but they have been included here in order to round out the presentation of the land grant system as it applies to the Catonsville region; and at the same time to show the increasing accuracy of the surveys as time went on.

The boundaries of all the original grants have now in the twentieth century become pretty definitely established, so that there is no longer any occasion for resurveys of the sort commonly made in the Colonial period.

It is true that the State of Maryland still owns some vacant land, and a few patents are issued from time to time; but it is not likely that any land belonging in this category is to be found near Catonsville.

Having thus roughly sketched the original land grants and principal resurveys during Colonial times, we may consider that the geography of Catonsville has been given sufficient attention for the time being; and hence we may turn to various other matters of interest in connection with the early history of this region.

XXIX. *Early Surveyors and Their Methods*

As we have already seen, it is probable that the first white men to visit Hunting Ridge were hunters, trappers and explorers. In their wake no doubt came the surveyors before the actual settlers themselves arrived, so that it will be fitting to consider them next in order.

After desultory attempts at regulating the surveying of land in the early years of the province, a surveyor general was finally appointed to exercise supervision over the actual surveying work of his deputies. The first incumbent of this new office was John Lankford, who was appointed on March 24, 1641; and strangely enough the appointment was for life, instead of the usual "at his Lordship's pleasure."

By the year 1680 the activity in the making of land grants

had become such that it was found necessary to erect a distinct land office at St. Mary's, the seat of the provincial government, which later was removed to Annapolis in 1694.

Some of the most prominent men in the early years were glad to become deputy surveyors, many of whom were landholders themselves. Indeed the office in question was doubtless sought at times in order to gain a good opportunity of spying out the unsettled frontiers and of thus getting first pick of the choicest land for the official himself.

In Colonial times the following took a hand in the surveying of land grants in Hunting Ridge:

Brooke, Baker, surveyor general in 1673.
Carroll, James, deputy surveyor in 1701.
Diggs, Edward, examiner in 1707.
Israell, John, deputy surveyor in 1707.
Richardson, John, deputy surveyor in 1699.
Richardson, Thomas, deputy surveyor in 1695.
Rigbie, Skipwith, deputy surveyor in 1751.
Ross, T., examiner in 1752.
Smith, Capt. Richard, surveyor general in 1695.
White, Thomas, deputy surveyor in 1748.
Yate, George, deputy surveyor in 1673.

Two of the deputy surveyors mentioned above, Skipwith Rigbie and Thomas White, were appointed especially for Baltimore County.

On September 28, 1663, an act was passed by the General Assembly of Maryland which had a direct bearing on many of the surveys made later on Hunting Ridge. Its text is as follows:

" Then came a Messenger from the lower howse and Question being then moved, whether in case any person have formerly surveyed land and obteyned Grant thereof from the Lord Proprietor and some other person came afterwards the Surveyor not knowing the former Bounds of the land adjacent and runs his lines within the Lines of the Land formerly Granted and also obteyne Grant for the same from the Lord Proprietor whether the latter Pattentee shall by this Act hould

the land soe by him Survayed and Pattented against the former Patentee; And the Upper howse declared their Sence to be that by this Act the latter Pattentee shall not hould such land against the former Pattentee; And Question being further moved in case land be only survayed and not pattented whether the Tytle of the first Survey shall exclude all after Surveys even though the latter Survey have been prosecuted soe farr as to obteyne a pattent under the Seale; And the Upper howse declared their Sence to be that the first Certifficate being entred upon Record shall exclude the latter Survey though prosecuted soe farr as to obtayne a Grant under the great Seale this Act notwithstanding, Provided the person that hath Interest in the first Survey have not suffred the tyme (vizt) twelve moneths in which he ought by his lordship's conditions of plantacion to have taken a Grant of the said Land to be Elapsed." (*Archives of Maryland*, Vol. I, pp. 478-479.)

The usual process of acquiring land grants was as follows: The prospective settler after his arrival in the province first repaired to the land office and his rights officially entered, or demanded a warrant of survey in accordance with the terms of his Lordship's latest proclamation. The warrant was signed by the Governor and directed to the Surveyor General, who, after its execution by himself or his deputy, returned a certificate of the survey under his signature to the Secretary's office. After which, no objection appearing within a given delay, a grant or patent was issued conformably thereto under the great seal, signed by the Governor and endorsed by the Secretary and Surveyor General. The title to the land was then complete. At times some of the steps in this process were omitted, especially the issuing of the formal patent, but the title held good nevertheless. (See Kilty, *The Land Holder's Assistant*, pp. 65-66.)

As a curious specimen of an early warrant the following may be cited (see Kilty, pp. 70):

"7th March 1641.—Lay out some time before Michaelmass next at the furthest 4000 acres of land in any part of Patowmack River upward of Port Tobacco Creek for Captain Thomas

Cornwaleys, Esq. and bound it with the most natural bounds as near as you may to the figure of a parallelogram. And for soe doing this shall be your Warrant. To Mr. Surveyor or his Deputy."

The following is a sample of a "demand warrant" taken from the *Annapolis Records*, Liber Q., p. 47:

"Thomos Cole demandeth fifty acres of Land as right for his Condition of Service within this province. Warrant to Surveyour Generall to lay out for Thomas Cole 50 Acres of Land ret. primo January (1658)."

The warrant having been procured in due form, the would-be settler arranged with some surveyor to accompany him on a prospecting tour. When the two had reached the neighborhood in question they no doubt consulted with any settlers who happened to be living not far distant as to the bounds of previous surveys. Having finally selected the land desired, the surveyor probably proceeded at once to run his lines and make his calculations. That they were frequently inaccurate is not to be wondered at, especially when one considers the danger from hostile Indians who might object to the white man's encroachment on his favorite hunting grounds.

XXX. *Colonial Population*

The marvelous growth in population of our country during the three centuries that it has been inhabited by white men has been a subject of wonder to the civilized world. The small part of the grand total which is due to the development of our own neighborhood may hence fittingly be a subject of inquiry here.

In considering questions of population it is usually necessary to take into account the three factors of immigration, natural increase and emigration. In the case of Catonsville the proximity of a large city adds a special feature of great importance.

Such a thing as a census in the present sense of the word is a very recent invention, and in Colonial times was wholly

unknown. Certain lists of portions of the population were made from time to time in the early days; but the first regular census of the whole country was not taken until 1790, and even that was very incomplete and unsatisfactory from the standpoint of our times.

Hence we are thrown back on estimates of various sorts to determine the population of any given territory at any particular time. For the Hunting Ridge region no estimates of population seem ever to have been made, but the following considerations may perhaps throw some light on the question.

In the year 1909 the Bureau of the Census in Washington published a large volume entitled "A Century of Population Growth," and from this many of the data used have been derived. In this authoritative work, however, the Colonial period is treated only by way of introduction.

The population of the country as a whole has increased by leaps and bounds from the first settlement in Virginia in 1607 to approximately ninety-five millions at the present day, but the rate of growth has varied greatly in different parts of the land from time to time. Maryland, however, presents throughout the Colonial period a uniform and gradual growth up to the two hundred thousand mark at the time of the Revolution.

When Hunting Ridge was first settled in 1667 the population of Maryland was about ten thousand and many new settlers from Europe were constantly pouring in to swell the number. Hence the first period of the population on Hunting Ridge was one in which immigration played the chief role, natural increase and emigration entering but slightly into account.

We may consider this first period to have ended in 1707, as after that date new grants of land were few and far between. During forty years, therefore, new settlers were the feature of the population, and no less than forty land grants were made to them by the Lord Proprietor. Now we know from the rent rolls at Annapolis that practically no subdivision of the original grants was made during these first forty years, so that in estimating population we may well consider that we have forty farms to take into consideration.

Now from the census returns of 1790 we know that at that

date the average number of persons in a Maryland family was five and six-tenths; but as this average has been slowly decreasing in later times we may safely assume that the Colonial average was six persons. Now if we assume that each farm was the home of a family we will arrive at the number two hundred and forty as the white population. Allowing for a few slaves which we know from their wills were owned by the early settlers on Hunting Ridge, we obtain the number two hundred and fifty as that of the probable population in the year 1707 when the incoming of new settlers practically ceased.

If we now turn to a consideration of the elements in this population various points may be noticed. And first as to the number of people born in Europe or in the older counties of Maryland who came to live on Hunting Ridge.

Many of the first grants were made to people who were said to be residents of Anne Arundel county, but whom we know to have owned various other tracts of land. Hence many of them probably did not live on their new Hunting Ridge grants. Later on, however, the patentees probably became actual settlers in most instances.

Again many of the early grants were sold to new owners before 1707 as recorded on the rent rolls now at Annapolis. The first owners in this event usually removed to other parts of Baltimore County in all probability.

Taking all these factors into consideration we may perhaps consider that some two hundred aliens (including children) lived on the forty farms in question at some time before the year 1707. By this date, however, the losses by death and removal probably amounted to about fifty persons.

We next come to the question of natural increase in the population, or in other words the number of children born on Hunting Ridge during the first forty years.

Although many of the first patentees were doubtless old men who died in a few years at some other place, it would seem to be almost certain that most of the early settlers were married men in the prime of life. We know, too, that a young community in the backwods usually has a high birth-rate, and in an eminently healthy region such as Hunting Ridge un-

doubtedly was the death-rate must have been fairly low. Hence we can safely assume that a considerable number of children were born on Hunting Ridge during the first forty years, and especially during the latter part of the time when thirty or more families probably were living there. During the first twenty-five years perhaps fifty children were born, and during the last fifteen possibly a hundred more. Supposing that twenty-five of the children died before 1707, there would be one hundred and twenty-five natives left.

Emigration probably played but a slight role during the forty years in question when the region was just filling with the new settlers and their families. Perhaps a few removed to Annapolis as the nearest town then growing rapidly, and a few others to settlements elsewhere especially those towards the northwest. Let us estimate these emigrants at twenty-five.

Statistical Result:

200 aliens, less 50 deaths, +150
150 births, less 25 deaths, +125
25 removals, —25

Totals: 350 residents, 250 survivors.

XXXI. *Natural Increase and Emigration*

The second period in the growth of population on Hunting Ridge was one of natural increase modified largely by emigration and extending from 1707 to 1776, when the Revolutionary War at last brought the Colonial period to a close.

It is now that the rate of natural increase becomes the chief question of importance in making estimates of population. A writer in the *Americana* under this caption states that the highest rate of increase that under the most favorable conditions can continue in a civilized community for a considerable time is about three per cent. per annum, which is equivalent to a doubling of population in twenty-five years. Such a rate of increase is approximated in new countries where there is good land for all.

T. R. Malthus in his essay on the *Principle of Population* (London, 1806, Vol. I, p. 6) in speaking of the United States says that in the back settlements, where the sole employment is agriculture, the population has been known to double itself in fifteen years. We will, therefore, not be far wrong if we hold that the population of Hunting Ridge in the eighteenth century doubled itself by natural increase every twenty years.

"The common people created self-sustaining families as readily as the banyan tree spreads a grove around the parent trunk. New land was easily obtained. A thrifty farmer could buy acres enough on which to settle his sons from the savings of a few years. The ax could create the log house anywhere, and in most places saw mills gave a cheap supply of planks and deals. . . . The homestead was often given to the younger son, who provided for the parents in their old age, the elder brothers having acquired settlements of their own. Thus the teeming social soil was ready for the family roots, which were constantly extending. Unmarried men of thirty were rare in country towns. Matrons were grandmothers at forty; mother and daughter frequently nursed their children at the same time. Father, son and grandson often worked together in one field; and the field was their own." (See W. B. Weeden, *Economic and Social History of New England, 1620-1789,* Vol. II, p. 860.)

The average number of children in Maryland families was large in Colonial times. Thus genealogical records tell us that some twenty-two Brooke families in Maryland before the Revolutionary War had among them one hundred and fifty-seven children all descendeed from a common ancestor, or an average of more than seven children to a family. Thomas Brooke (C. 1683, d. 1744) and his wife Lucy Smith had no less than seventeen children; Robert Brooke (C. 1602, d. 1655) had fifteen children by his two wives Mary Baker and Mary Mainwaring; another Thomas Brooke (C. about 1659, d. 1731) had fourteen children by his two wives Ann and Barbara Dent.

But the Brooke family were of course an exception. (See Christopher Johnston in *Md. Hist. Magazine,* Vol. I, pp. 67ff.)

Second marriages were a common occurrence and many instances could be cited from Hunting Ridge; third and even fourth marriages were not unknown in Colonial Maryland. Thus there would frequently be two sets of children in one family.

In estimating the natural increase of population on Hunting Ridge it must be remembered that during the eighteenth century slaves became fairly numerous though they never came to play the important role that they did in the lower counties. There were also a few free blacks to be found at this period, and both classes of the colored race are well-known to be very prolific.

In 1755 an enumeration of the people of Baltimore County was made which showed 6633 white persons and 2152 colored, so that the colored population on Hunting Ridge at that time was probably nearly one-fourth of the whole.

Beginning with a population of two hundred and fifty in 1707, we would by natural increase have five hundred in 1727, one thousand in 1747, two thousand in 1767, and nearly three thousand in 1776.

There was probably also a slight addition of aliens from year to year, so that the total potential population of Hunting Ridge by 1776 was probably four thousand people.

As the average age attained in Colonial times was about thirty-five years, it is apparent that two life-times were embraced in the period under consideration. This would mean that the number of deaths was twice that of the average, or four thousand. Thus we would have the number eight thousand as that of the persons who at one time during this period lived on Hunting Ridge, or whose ancestors did.

The number three hundred and fifty of the first period is so insignificant in comparison with this large total that in itself it may be neglected; but at the same time account must be taken of the early removals and their descendants. This would add about one-fifth to the total, which would bring our grand total up to ten thousand as that of the persons who at one time during the entire Colonial period lived on Hunting Ridge, or whose ancestors did.

And this brings us naturally to the question of emigration

from Hunting Ridge to other localities, a question which is surrounded with much uncertainty. Perhaps the best way of arriving at the actual population at the time of the Revolution will be to consider the number of farms then situated on Hunting Ridge.

The rent rolls at Annapolis show many subdivisions of the land grants during the eighteenth century, and the records of the Baltimore Company also show many sales to individuals, so that we will probably be not far wrong in estimating the number of farms at one hundred. Considering hired men and slaves, we may perhaps put the average number of people on a farm at ten by the year 1776. This would give a population of a round thousand.

As we had estimated four thousand as the full number without removal, we may consider that three thousand were then living elsewhere. Indeed it is a well-known fact in the history of the United States that there has been a steady movement of the population westward and likewise towards the cities. The former fact was already noted by President George Washington in a letter to Sir John Sinclair written in 1796, and it has been superabundantly proved since that date.

XXXII. *Colonial Families*

Of late years American families have become aware of their own existence as it were and in consequence they have been very generally taking an interest in their past history. Genealogical researches have thus come to occupy an important place in the public consciousness, and societies of many kinds based on ancestry have sprung into existence.

But unfortunately for the genealogists the public and private records bearing on family history are as a rule extremely vague and uncertain. It is therefore entirely impossible to attain to complete information on this subject, and especially so for the Colonial period.

Only in the New England states do the official records seem to have been kept with any approach to completeness, and it is

usually not difficult to trace descent from the Mayflower down to the present day. Indeed some 3750 genealogies have already been published, and these include a large number of collateral lines on the distaff side. (See catalogue published in 1910 by the Library of Congress.)

But in Maryland the case is quite different, for owing largely to the incompleteness of the oldest records of all sorts not a single early Colonial family seems to have had its history traced in all its branches down to the present day. A considerable number of partial genealogies for Maryland families have been worked out and published, but it is practically only a beginning that has so far been made.

Some idea, however, of the number and names of families in the original colonies including Maryland can be obtained from the records of the first national census in 1790. Part of the original schedules were destroyed when the British burnt Washington, but those that remain contain 27,337 different family names. Allowing for the burnt records, the total number in 1790 was probably about 30,000. As complete family removals to other countries were doubtless very few in number during the entire Colonial period, we may take this number as representing approximately the number of family names for the Colonial period in its entirety.

Now the most usual method of limiting American genealogies is to begin with the first emigrant from Europe, and then to trace his descendants down to the present day. Hence it is evident that the same family name must in some instances have been brought over from Europe by a large number of distinct individuals, each one of whom would have a genealogical tree of his own in America, even if only limited to himself.

If we assume the Colonial immigration to have been 100,000 persons of both sexes, we would have approximately 50,000 family names brought over from Europe, of which 20,000 would be duplicates, leaving 30,000 different names as shown at the first census.

As is well known certain family names occur very frequently, and in 1790 the numerical leaders were the names Smith, Brown, Davis, Jones, Johnson, Clark, Williams, Miller and

Wilson in the order named. These nine names represented about four per cent. of the total white population.

In Maryland at the first census there were some six thousand different family names, thirty thousand families, and one hundred and eighty thousand individuals among the white population. That is, on the average each name was that of five families containing thirty individuals.

Now if we apply these statistics to Hunting Ridge we will get about the following result. The four thousand potential inhabitants in 1776 would have borne one hundred and thirty different family names, and would have belonged to two hundred Colonial families in the sense referred to above. But as by the first census Maryland had only one-fourteenth of the white population of the colonies, yet nearly one-fourth of the family names, it would seem to follow that a small area would naturally have at least three times its proportionate share of names.

Applying this principle to Hunting Ridge we would have to largely modify the estimates given above, and now put them down as four hundred and six hundred respectively. Putting this statement into other words we would affirm that the Colonial inhabitants of Hunting Ridge bore four hundred family names, and were descended from six hundred immigrants. It is of course hardly necessary to state that all calculations such as the above take account only of males owing to the change of family name made by married women.

When, on the other hand, the family name is not taken as the norm but the question is one of blood relationship, the field of genealogical research is much widened and at the same time made vastly more complicated. Now with every woman's marriage a new family name is brought into the circle of research, and in the course of a few generations the ramifications become bewildering in the case of a prolific stock.

According to the last-mentioned plan any given individual belongs at one and the same time to a large number of families as his descent is traced back from generation to generation.

It is needless to say that the history of the hundreds of families who must once have lived on Hunting Ridge has

never been written, and probably never can or will be. As an evidence, however, of the way in which American families are constantly on the move it may be remarked that few, if any, of the family names found on Hunting Ridge before 1707 are still represented in the neighborhood. There may indeed be descendants of the early settlers still living in our midst, but if so the change of family name has served to obscure that fact. It would seem, indeed, that few Catonsville names can be traced back in a direct line of continuous residence for more than a century and a half.

XXXIII. *Family Names of Hunting Ridge*

It is of course entirely impossible at the present day to draw up a list of four hundred family names for Hunting Ridge, but something at least can be done in that direction.

Probably the easiest way to assemble a list of such names is to run over the group of landowners known to have had property on Hunting Ridge in Colonial times. For this purpose the rent rolls at Annapolis are of great service, as they record not only the original patentees, but also in many instances the later purchasers. The land records furnish a few additional names; and from these two sources the list of eighty-eight names given below has been compiled.

A careful examination of Colonial wills and of the early records of the Baltimore Company would probably add very considerably to this number; but this has not been done.

Hired men, tenants and squatters have perforce been passed over, as there was no way of ascertaining their names. In the list about to be given the names are arranged in alphabetical order, and after each one is given the earliest date at which it has been found among the landowners on Hunting Ridge. Many of these names occur earlier elsewhere in Maryland, but the date given may be taken roughly as that at which the family in question took up their residence on Hunting Ridge. There are, however, necessarily many exceptions.

LIST OF FAMILY NAMES

Ashman since Nov. 30, 1694.
Bailey since May 7, 1718.
Baker since June 4, 1712.
Barker since about 1720.
Barton since Feb. 2, 1751.
Benson since Oct. 12, 1694.
Bond since April 8, 1712.
Brice since Sept. 10, 1703.
Brown (Browne) since Oct. 10, 1694.
Buchanan since Nov. 21, 1730.
Burton since Sept. 1, 1730.
Cannon since Apr. 21, 1701.
Carrol (Carroll) since Nov. 28, 1731.
Chapman (Cheepman) since Nov. 16, 1734.
Chew since about 1720.
Christian since Mar. 28, 1696.
Cole since June 15, 1673.
Creagh since Mar. 8, 1726.
Cromwell (Crumwell) since Mar. 10, 1695.
Crowley (Crowleys) since Mar. 11, 1699.
Davis since Mar. 8, 1706.
Digges since Sept. 19, 1695.
Dorsey since about 1720.
Douglass since May 30, 1735.
Dulany since Sept. 25, 1733.
Evans since Mar. 19, 1727.
Fitzsimmons (Fitzsimons, Fitzsymons) since Feb. 29, 1695.
Floyd since Oct. 5, 1738.
Foreman since Nov. 6, 1706.
Gardiner since Feb. 9, 1720.
Garrett since July 26, 1710.
Gorsuch since Mar. 11, 1708.
Griffin since about 1720. (Eliz. Griffin.)
Haddaway since Apr. 8, 1712.
Hamilton since Nov. 13, 1715.
Harris since June 10, 1728.

Harrison since Jan. 16, 1746.
Hatley since June 2, 1709.
Hawkings (Hawkins) since Nov. 3, 1701.
High since Aug. 8, 1747.
Hollingsworth since Oct. 30, 1695.
Hooker since Feb. 20, 1695.
Hooper since June 25, 1736.
Hope since Aug. 9, 1695.
Howard since Aug. 30, 1735.
Hoxton since June 10, 1728.
Israel (Israell) since April 22, 1705.
Jackson since Oct. 30, 1695.
Johnson since Oct. 27, 1707.
King since July 29, 1700.
Knowles since about 1720.
Laskin since Oct. 29, 1737.
Lewes since Nov. 21, 1730.
Lewis since about 1750.
Linthicumb since Sept. 1, 1730.
Love since Aug. 8, 1747.
Maccubbin since Mar. 5, 1732.
McDaniell since Oct. 1701.
McLain (M'Lane) since Feb. 10, 1695.
Marsh since Sept. 30, 1720.
Murphy since Mar. 11, 1699.
Murray (Murrey) since Nov. 12, 1694.
Nelthorpe since June 2, 1709.
Nighton since about 1750.
Norwood since July 26, 1744.
Odell since Apr. 6, 1700.
Owen since Oct. 10, 1694.
Parker since Oct. 16, 1695.
Parrish since Mar. 5, 1732.
Pierce (Pierse) since Oct. 11, 1677.
Prestwood since Oct. 29, 1737.
Randall since Nov. 13, 1715.
Rawlins since about 1720.
Ridgeley since Apr. 25, 1743.

Rogers since June 16, 1699.
Roper since Oct. 20, 1667.
Scutt since Mar. 15, 1695.
Shoredine since Aug. 8, 1747.
Slade since Feb. 20, 1695.
Smith since Aug. 29, 1695.
Stinchcomb (Stinchicomb, Stinsicomb) since Sept. 8, 1699.
Tasker since Jan. 4, 1730.
Taylor since Mar. 23, 1678.
Teal since Apr. 28, 1720.
Wells since Feb. 12, 1771.
Worthington since May 9, 1720.
Wright since Nov. 29, 1727.
Yates since June 15, 1683.

If now we glance back over the list just given we may note various points likely to attract the attention of the casual reader. In the first place many of the names here listed are famous in Maryland history both early and late: the Carrolls need not be dwelt on here, Dulany's Valley and Worthington's Valley are both well-known, Brice recalls Annapolis and its Colonial houses, Garrett the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, Randall the famous Civil War poem, and in fact almost every name sounds familiar in some connection.

If now we compare our present list with that of the early Quakers previously given we find that fourteen (possibly fifteen) of the names are the same.

Again if we refer to our previous list of early testators we have sixteen names in common, which seems a rather large number considering the very early dates of the formed set.

Considered on its own merits the present list shows many names beginning with B, C and especially H, whereas those with S are surprisingly few in number.

Of the nine commonest names at the first National census four are found here, namely, Brown, Davis, Johnson and Smith. No attempt has, however, been made to determine the number of families having each of the above-mentioned names.

XXXIV. *Blood Relationship*

Few people have any adequate idea of the large number of persons among whom blood relationship exists in a prolific family after a few generations. Unfortunately Maryland records of this sort cannot be cited by way of illustration, but there is abundant material at hand from other colonies.

The Quaker family of Smedley may be instanced as a good example of rapid increase. George Smedley came from England to Pennsylvania about the year 1682, married a widow in 1687, and became the father of five children. These in turn had 35 children among them, the latter had 166 children, and these 597 children. This generation, the fifth in America, in turn had 1872 children, and these again 3559 children. Thus in seven generations there were 6235 members of the Smedley family, all of whom bore blood relationship to the emigrant George Smedley, though many of them had other names.

Another Englishman coming to America about half a century earlier, and whose descendants have been traced to the twelfth generation, was Thomas Sanford, one of the earliest settlers in Connecticut. In this case there were 15572 known descendants in the course of about three centuries.

These two instances will suffice as concrete cases to show the possibility of a large number of people being descended on American soil from a common ancestor, and to illustrate the point that the average number of children is the important factor in such cases. The Smedley family, for instance, started out with an average of nearly seven, but in the long run only averaged about four children, and yet a large total was reached in seven generations. But even this latter average would probably be too large to apply generally, and it would be safer to assume three children as a rule. With this number as a basis seven generations would total more than a thousand descendants, and eight generations more than four thousand.

Applying these assumed data to the Colonial families of Catonsville we would obtain some astonishing results. The earliest known settler on Hunting Ridge arrived a matter of

two hundred and forty-six years ago, which would afford time for about eight generations. Such a settler might very well have had four thousand descendants, who would doubtless be found scattered far and wide over the United States and other countries. And yet all these people could claim Catonsville ancestry if their family history was completely worked out.

At this point the important question of crossing presents itself for cosideration in its various phases. With a population which remains comparatively stationery in a given locality crossing in lines of descent would almost inevitably occur with great frequency. That is to say, people having a common ancestor would be married and thus produce complications in the family tree. Not only first cousins, but relatives further removed of the fifth, eighth or tenth generation would marry each other perhaps without even being aware of such relationship.

But with a population constantly on the move from place to place over a large territory this is not so apt to occur. Hence in any given Colonial family we may pretty safely assume that there were comparatively few intermarriages between various branches.

Now if we were to assume that every man or woman of Catonsville ancestry married some one of outside descent, it is evident that there would be no crossing of any sort to take into consideration. If such an improbable thing were actually the case, it is easy to see that it would take only two hundred and fifty original settlers with four thousand descendants each to produce a total of one million people of Catonsville ancestry.

Hence to fix upon a figure that will represent with some approach to reasonableness the number of people actually having Catonsville ancestry down to the present day, we must make some sort of estimate of the proportion of "home" marriages to "alien" marriages. Now from certain slight indications to be found in published genealogies which include side lines of descent we may perhaps venture the guess that in the long run only ten per cent. of the marriages would be made with strangers. Hence ninety per cent. would be crossings of Catonsville ancestry, and only one tenth of the million referred to above could be set down as representing as a matter of fact the

number of people whose ancestors at one time lived on Hunting Ridge.

If the above reasoning be anywhere near the statistical truth the final result will be that one hundred thousand people may lay claim to Catonsville ancestry in the widest sense of the term.

By way of illustration there may be cited a few facts concerning Catonsville families known to have been largely represented in Colonial times.

Probably the best-known name that can be cited in this connection is that of the Dorsey family, now so widely spread in Howard county, but some members of which resided in Catonsville in the early days. The original Dorsey emigrant to Maryland is said to have had three sons, and each of these from eight to ten sons. Thus the family name quickly got a start which caused it to be one of the most familiar in Colonial Maryland. (See J. D. Warfield, *The Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard counties, Maryland.*)

The Ashman family, on the contrary, was in the early years well represented in the Franklin region, but by the time of the first census in 1790 it had disappeared so completely that no one by that name is registered as living anywhere in Maryland.

The Stinchcomb family rejoice in such an unusual name that their history is comparatively easy to trace. This family have probably resided in and near Catonsville for more than two hundred years, and Stinchcomb's Hill is still the name of a locality in the White Grounds.

Many more instances might be cited, but these will suffice to indicate the general scope of the question of local residence.

XXXV. *Nationality of Early Settlers*

It is a thoroughly well-estabilshed fact that the early settlers of the thirteen colonies were English in large majority. It has indeed been estimated that at the time of the first census eighty-three and a-half per cent. of the entire population was of English extraction.

In certain sections of the country some other nationalities were largely represented: in New York it was the Dutch, in Pennsylvania the German and Scotch. When we come to Maryland we find the English relatively as numerous as in the whole country, then the Scotch and German a small fraction each, and finally the Irish, French and other nationalities a very minor factor. In certain parts of the state there were small areas thickly settled by given nationalities: in Western Maryland it was the Germans and the Scotch, in Baltimore Town the Germans and the French.

As a preliminary to a study of the question for Hunting Ridge we may first consider the case of Baltimore, for which the facts have previously been investigated by various writers.

We find the names Loudenslager's Hill and Steiger's Meadow as evidence that the English population had a sprinkling of German settlers among them. At a somewhat later date German Lane and Uhler's Alley on the oldest map of Baltimore are further indications of German residents.

After the settlement of Frederick County by large numbers of Germans coming down from Pennsylvania, we find many of this nationality also establishing themselves in Baltimore, so much so indeed that by the year 1795 when the first city directory was compiled more than one-half of the names were German. (See E. F. Leyh, *Sixth Annual Report of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland*, pp. 75-85.)

As representing official testimony to the large number of Germans in Baltimore we may quote the following extract from a letter of Governor Horatio Sharpe to Lord Baltimore under date of May 2, 1754:

" I have taken an opportuntiy since my arrival of visiting Baltimore which indeed has the Appearance of the most increasing Town in the Province, tho it scarcely answered the Opinion I had conceived of it: hardly as yet rivaling Annapolis in number of Buildings or Inhabitants; its Situation as to Pleasantness Air & Prospect is inferior to that of Annapolis, but if one considers it with respect to Trade, The extensive Country beyond it leaves no room for Comparison; were a Few Gent'n of fortune to settle there and encourage the Trade it might soon become a flourishing place but while few beside the Germans (who are in general Masters of small Fortunes) build & inhabit there I apprehend it cannot make any considerable Figure. I am promised as soon as it can be compleated by a Gent'n therein residing a plan of the Town as it is begun & designed to be perfected, which I hope to convey your Ldp with my farther sentiments & a particular Description of its Site & of the adjacent country when I again take the Liberty of assuring your Ldp how much I am your Ldp's most devoted humble Serv't H. S." (See his correspondence, Vol. I, p. 57.)

A large contingent of Canadian-French came to Maryland in the fall of 1755. The English government had begun the policy of deporting the entire Acadian population of Nova Scotia to the English colonies, and by December of that year nine hundred and three of them had been brought to Annapolis. The allotment of Acadians to Baltimore County was sent in a vessel employed by the Governor, and landed at Philpotts point. In 1756 a certain Andrew Stygar presented a bill to the Baltimore County Court for " carting the french neutrals goods from Mr. Philpots Point to Baltimore Town." These people settled largely on South Charles street, which region was long after known as Frenchtown.

But there were also many French that came into Maryland from the West Indies, France, etc., and it would be difficult to trace their individual movements. (See Basil Sollers, *Md. Hist. Mag.*, Vol. III, pp. 1-21.)

There are also early traces of the Irish in Baltimore and elsewhere in Maryland.

Now it is hardly possible that so many Germans, French

and Irish could have settled in Baltimore before the close of the Colonial period without some of the same nationalities coming to Hunting Ridge. The usual custom of Americanizing foreign names whenever possible makes identification oftentimes difficult or impossible. By scanning the list of family names previously given we may obtain at least a few hints as to nationality for the early settlers about Catonsville.

We may notice here that Irish and Scotch names seem to be fairly numerous, but that German and French names are scarce. Perhaps this state of affairs may best be accounted for by the fact that the earliest German and French arrivals were probably poorer than their English neighbors and hence would not be so likely to become landowners at an early date. Now as the list of names referred to consisted chiefly of the land-owning class, it would necessarily follow that French and German names would not be likely to occur.

RICHARD CATON OF CATONSVILLE

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Family History

The Caton family seems to have been of Norman origin, and the name occurs frequently in the annals of English history; but the genealogists have not yet succeeded in discovering all of the connecting links between the subject of this sketch and the earliest known member of the family in England. Suffice it here to record the following disconnected items:[1]

Walter de Caton, Knight, 1193, was present with the King's Army at York;

John de Caton is on record for the year 1297;

Thomas de Caton in 1311 held the manors of Caton and Littledale;

John de Caton in 1352 was rector of Gawsworth, and died in 1391;

John de Caton in 1386 gave the manor of Cockerham to the Abbey of Leicester;

Robert de Caton in 1402 was the priest chancellor of the Bishop of Winchester;

John Caton in 1448 was a citizen of London;

John Caton mentioned in 1497 has descendants now living at Prittlewell, Essex, and Flookborough, Lancaster;

John Caton in 1511 was priest vicar of Heine;

Thomas Caton in 1522 was buried at St. John Zachary, London.

The earliest known ancestor of the subject of our sketch was William Caton, who was born at Heysham, a small place near Caton, Lancashire, England in 1684. William Caton's second wife was Isabel Chaffers, to whom he was married in 1724. Their son Joseph Caton was born in 1731, and in 1735 the

[1] Extracts from a family pedigree "compiled by Wm. Woodville Shelmerdine, 1917, from authentic documents and family papers," original manuscript belonging to Mrs. J. J. Jackson, Baltimore, Md.

father died and was buried at his birthplace. At one time this Joseph Caton was the captain of an Indiaman, and when on shore resided in Liverpool.

Some record of this Joseph Caton has been preserved in a partial copy of his last will and testament lately in the possession of Mrs. John Joseph Jackson, a distant relative residing in Baltimore, Maryland. This will was made and published by him on the 26th of February, 1796, and in it he enumerates five children and two grandchildren to whom he bequeaths his property.

Richard Caton, the subject of our sketch, appears to have been the oldest of the children, and his father refers to the fact that when he had left home he had given him the sum of five hundred pounds. In a codicil to his will made March 26, 1803, occur the following words:

"Now I do hereby revoke and make void such bequest as to the share of my said son R. C. only and do hereby order, will, and direct that the share of my said son R. C., of and in the residue and remainder of my said real and personal estate, or the money arising therefrom, together with the interest and proceeds that shall grow due thereon, and which I hereby direct shall accumulate until the same shall become payable, shall be equally divided between and amongst all and every the lawful child and children of my said son R. C. living at the time of his decease, or born in due time afterwards to be equally divided among them."

The original of this will is no doubt on file at Liverpool, England.

Of Joseph Caton, the father of Richard, we know further that he married a girl of sixteen, and had a family of eight children, his oldest son being born on the fifteenth of April, 1763. The best known modern representative of the family in England is Dr. Richard Caton, who was recently Lord Mayor of Liverpool and who is a scholar and writer of some note.[2]

[2] Compare the chapter entitled "A Favorite of Destiny" in A. M. W. Stirling's *A Painter of Dreams, and Other Biographical Studies*, London, 1916.

Courtship and Marriage

Soon after reaching the future metropolis of Maryland and the South (in a manner and at a date not recorded) the young English merchant seems to have fallen in love with the sixteen-year old Polly Carroll, eldest surviving daughter of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, then and afterwards a power in Maryland political life. The young lady's real name was of course Mary, so named no doubt after her mother Mary Darnall; and we find that Richard Caton was not without a rival, as we distinctly learn from a letter written by the Signer to his cousin Daniel Carroll of Duddington, later so well known in connection with the early history of the City of Washington. For it would seem that the latter had been a suitor for the hand of his fair relative, and this would have been a match which her father evidently would have preferred to the one she had set her heart on.

Scarcely had the gay and charming Polly Carroll reached early womanhood when her father became aware that she had given her affections to a handsome young Englishman, who had recently arrived in America and who could not at that date (probably early in the year 1787) boast of a sufficient fortune to recommend him to a wealthy father as a suitable husband for the beautiful girl who had become attached to him. For Polly Carroll, although at that time little more than a child, was already recognized as the reigning belle of the society in which she moved. Her portrait painted by Robert E. Pine and still preserved by her descendants, even yet testifies eloquently to her fascination as a young girl. The position occupied by her father, apart from his daughter's personal attractions would alone have assured her of a large amount of public attention. Hence it is small wonder that the Senator harbored some more ambitious matrimonial project for the daughter of whom he was so justly proud, and it may easily be imagined how keenly disappointed he must have been to learn of his daughter's attachment for a penniless though handsome adventurer.

Charles Carroll of Carrollton, therefore, used every parental

persuasion to check the young girl's resolution; but finding his own arguments unavailing, he at length appealed to his friend Thomas Cockey Deye to bring fresh influence to bear upon so awkward a predicament. The story runs that Mr. Deye, then occupying high political rank at Annapolis, having in turn exhausted his powers of eloquence returned to Charles Carroll of Carrollton to report the complete failure of his mission. Thereupon the Senator determined to try one last experiment: "Go," he said, "and ask her if her lover gets into jail who will get him out?" Mr. Deye, being thus armed, returned to the charge; but on hearing his question the beautiful girl, with her face rendered yet more lovely by the enthusiasm which inspired it, raised her tiny hands heavenwards, and exclaimed dramatically: "These hands shall take him out." The solution might not be convincing, but the devotion which prompted it conquered the father's heart. Persuaded that his daughter's happiness was at stake, he withdrew his opposition to her engagement and on March 13, 1787, he penned to Daniel Carroll of Duddington a letter which was little calculated to be welcome to the recipient.[3] The letter begins thus:

"Dear Cousin: I am favored with your letter of the 20th of September. As the intelligence I am going to give you may make some alterations in your plans, although disagreeable, I must impart it to you. My daughter, I am sorry to inform you, is much attached to and has engaged herself to, a young English gentleman of the name of Caton. I do sincerely wish that she had placed her affections elsewhere, but I do not think I am at liberty to control her choice when fixed on a person of unexceptionable character. My assent to this union is obtained on two conditions, that the young gentleman shall extricate himself from some debts which he has contracted and shall get into a business sufficient to maintain himself and a family. These conditions he has promised to comply with, and, when performed, there will be no other impediment in the way of his marriage. Time will wear away the impression which an early attachment has made on your heart, and I hope you will find,

[3] The original letter has been preserved among the family papers of Mrs. Wm. C. Pennington, Baltimore, Md.

in the course of a year or two, some agreeable, virtuous, and sweet tempered young lady, whose reciprocal affection, tenderness and goodness of disposition, will make you happy and forget the loss of my daughter. Miss Darnall and Molly desire their kind compliments to you."

No account is given of the effect produced upon the luckless suitor by this fateful letter; but the intelligence it conveyed was soon confirmed, as before the year was out Richard Caton and Polly Carroll had been married. Perhaps a further attempt on the part of the father to soothe the feelings of the rejected suitor may be seen in the following sentence found in a letter from Charles Carroll of Carrollton to Daniel Carroll of Dudington, Esq., London, dated at Annapolis on the 28th of May, 1787;[4] namely that:

"Miss Darnall and my daughter join me in sincere wishes for your health and happiness."

But scant note of the wedding itself has come down to us, but it would appear that from this time forward the fortunes of Richard Caton were largely blended with those of the Carroll family of Maryland, and his later history forms but a part of the famous whole.

Business Career

Of Richard Caton's indpendent business career in Baltimore prior to his notorious failure we have left to us only slight indications. As early as Oct. 29, 1784, we find him advertising wine for sale in a Baltimore newspaper, and a few days later on Nov. 5, 1784, a cargo of merchandize from Liverpool is likewise advertised by "Richard Caton, and Co. at their store, Gay-street, adjoining the Hon. John Smith, Esq." Later on we find him taking an interest in real estate, as well as in a variety of other enterprises.

The following notes concerning attempted real estate transactions in connection with a famous plantation lying to the northwest of Baltimore and about two miles north of the present

[4] The original letter has been preserved among the family papers of Mrs. Wm. C. Pennington, Baltimore, Md.

village of Catonsville may be of interest here. There was at this time another well-known gentleman named Daniel Carroll (not the suitor previously mentioned), who owned a large place called Mount Dillon. This place was offered for sale by Richard Caton in an advertisement dated August 1, 1794,[5] and it is again mentioned in a French advertisement appearing in a Baltimore newspaper on September 12, 1795.[6] Here it is stated that a place offered for sale is seven miles from Baltimore and opposite Mr. Carroll's on "la grande route de Frederick-Town." From this it would appear that Richard Caton had been unsuccessful in his attempt to find a customer for Mount Dillon; and indeed we find Daniel Carroll himself still advertising his place for sale on May 5, 1796.[7]

As early as the year 1790 we find Richard Caton entering an association for the manufacture of cotton, and this enterprise eventually developed into the well known cotton duck mills at Woodberry.

In this same year 1790 we catch glimpses of Richard Caton's farming operations in the following paragraphs of a letter written by Charles Carroll of Carrollton to his daughter Mrs. Caton:[8]

Senate, 14 April, 1790.

Dear Molly:—

I hope you are safely got to the Manor with your little ones and Mr. Caton, and Mrs. Rankin, and that you find the country as agreeable as Annapolis . . .

Mr. O'Neal tells me that the late frost has much injured the fruit, peaches and pears. Let me know whether all the pears and peaches are destroyed; the apples, he says, Harry informed him, were not injured.

[5] *The Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser*, August 1, 1794, p. 4, col. 2.

[6] *The Federal Intelligencer and Baltimore Daily Gazette*, September 12, 1795, p. 4, col. 4.

[7] *The Federal Gazette and Baltimore Daily Advertiser*, May 5, 1796, p. 3, col. 1.

[8] The original letter has been preserved among the family papers of Mr. Charles Carroll Mactavish, and it has been published in a book entitled: *Unpublished Letters of Charles Carroll of Carrollton and of His Father, Charles Carroll of Doughoregan*, compiled and edited with a memoir by Thos. Meagher Field, New York, 1902. See pp. 160-162.

I hope soon to have a letter from you and Mr. Caton, and to hear that all things on the Manor, and at his farm [Catonsville] go on well. Give my compliments to Mrs. Rankin. How does she like Doughoregan? Kiss your dear little girls for me, and remember me affectionately to Mr. Caton. God bless my dear child.

I am Your affectionate Father,

Charles Carroll of Carrollton.

In the year 1795 Bishop John Carroll (1735-1815) was the leader in a movement to found the Library Company of Baltimore, and Richard Caton was one of those associated with him from the beginning. The collections of this company were many years later merged into those of the Maryland Historical Society.[9]

At one time Richard Caton also took considerable interest in geological matters; but his scientific ardor eventually led him to financial disaster, as will be seen presently.

Bankruptcy

Richard Caton's short though checkered business career on his own account came to a sudden end somewhere about the year 1800. His geological studies had led him on a few years before to a venture in the coal mine business at Cape Sable; but this proved disastrous and he failed for the sum of forty thousand dollars. At that time this was a very large debt for a business man with a large family to have hanging over his head, and though he lived for about forty-five years longer he never succeeded in paying it off, and thus died still a bankrupt.

Richard Caton's bankruptcy seems to have had various consequences in subsequent years, some of which may be enumerated as follows:

1. It was no doubt at this time that Charles Carroll of Carrollton began the payment of a regular allowance to his daughter

[9] See [Daniel Brent], *Biographical Sketch of the Most Rev. John Carroll*, edited by John Carroll Brent, Baltimore, 1843; John Gilmary Shea, *Life and Times of the Most Rev. John Carroll*, New York, 1888.

Mrs. Caton, reference to which is expressly made in the statement of her son-in-law, John McTavish, which was drawn up in the year 1824 in connection with a discussion of the family allowances made by the Signer up to that time.

2. In order to prevent his creditors laying hands on Richard Caton's prospective inheritance from his father, the latter made a final codicil to his will in the year 1803 bequeathing his eldest son's share to the latter's children.

3. His father-in-law also, probably in order to keep the bankrupt out of the debtor's jail, from this time on made an annual payment of three thousand dollars to his son-in-law's creditors, which payment was continued by Mrs. Caton after her father's death and led to unpleasant complications with the other heirs.

4. Perhaps it was owing finally to the same bankruptcy that Richard Caton spent the last forty years of his life, it would seem, as the agent for the Carroll family in their real estate transactions. He it was who in opposition to the ideas of his brother-in-law, General Robert Goodloe Harper, laid out the villages of Catonsville and Carrollton, the latter about the year 1810.

Carroll Will Case

One of the most famous will cases in the annals of Baltimore was that of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence. While there were many persons involved in this contest, the chief character appears to have been his son-in-law Richard Caton. Mr. Carroll, then the wealthiest man in America, had followed the general policy of keeping his affairs in his own control, dealing largely in real estate in all its many phases; but as the years passed and he became less and less able to attend to business matters, he appointed his son-in-law Richard Caton his agent and gradually turned over to him the management of his estate to a greater and ever greater degree. From time to time, Mr. Carroll allotted sums of money to his children and their families, gradually increasing the amount as the years passed, but never making any real division of his estate among them. Finally in his

old age he had the celebrated Maryland jurist, later Chief Justice of the United States, Roger Brooke Taney draw up his will. Some years later Mr. Carroll, foreseeing dissensions among his heirs and at the instigation no doubt of Mr. Richard Caton, had a codicil to his will drawn up by Mr. John H. B. Latrobe in which he threatened to disinherit any of his heirs who would dispute the provisions of his will after his death.[10] This incident caused much ill-feeling in one way and another, and shortly after Mr. Carroll's death in November, 1832, Mr. Richard Caton published a pamphlet giving an account of his stewardship in his own defense. The main point at issue was the fact that after Mr. Carroll's death it was discovered that the Caton branch of the family had been bequeathed by far the most important part of the estate, and this caused jealousy and ill-feeling on the part of the other heirs. After much discussion, assisted by various lawyers, an agreement was finally reached and thereafter the controversy quieted down.

It may be of interest here to quote Mr. Caton's own statement of his case as given in two documents which have been preserved:

The Maryland Historical Society owns a copy of the rare pamphlet referred to above, whose lengthy title is as follows:

A Brief Statement of Facts in the management of the late Mr. Carroll of Carrollton's Moneyed Estate, by Richard Caton, his agent, and of the circumstances arising out of it, in relation to the distribution among the three branches of the family.

The opening paragraph reads as follows:

"As much observation has arisen on the subject of Mr. Carroll's Will, and the disposition of his property during his life time, to the three branches of his family, in the discussion of which I am a prominent object; I feel it necessary to produce facts, in relation to my stewardship:—and I have a confidence that every honest and unprejudiced mind, will give me credit for having in a great measure created Mr. Carroll's moneyed estate, and for the integrity and liberality with which I have

[10] John E. Semmes, *John H. B. Latrobe & His Times, 1803 to 1891.* Baltimore, Maryland, The Norman Remington Co., 1917. See p. 291.

acted to the Harper and Carroll Branches of the family, often at the expense of my own."

The other document referred to is an autograph letter of Richard Caton's now in the Library of Congress which reads as follows:[11]

Baltimore, Feb. 28th, '33.

Dr. Sr.—

I thank you for your kind letetr, addressed to me, but in fact the Subject matter, intended for Mrs. McTavish.

I can only say on our part, that I have, and each member of my family has, a strong desire to put an end to a calamitous and costly legal contention. If a legal issue be actually the object sought for, by the adverse party, and truth be the object desired, let us have a trial on the Caveat of Mrs. Carroll or any other person before the Orphan's Court, and send the record to the Court of Appeals, where a final adjudication can be had, and the law be made known. This will at least put a stop to expenditure, that must have finally, a termination in the Court of Appeals, and there only; whatever intermediate points the question may pass thro'. As to a reference, I fear there is no chance, without surrendering the Will, which will never be consented to. I made proposals for a reference some five weeks since a common friend of the family communicated verbally the modus operandi, of the project, and he and one of the counsel approved of it; but Mr. Carroll rejected it.

I will show you a "pro forma" of the Project;—you will see, that the objects of justice and equity are by it, attainable, by a very simple procedure. The subject will be further proceeded on, by and by—the Parties know we are ready to close the contest by arrangement,—or a judicial decision, in the shortest way. If by your kind counsels, these ends can be pro-

[11] This letter is pasted in a large scrap-book, which was purchased by the Library of Congress in 1903 from a Washington art dealer named Fisher. The letter is torn and has been patched in several places. [*Vidimus*, G. C. K., June 11, 1919.]

moted (and either of them will be met by us) we shall indeed feel much obliged.

I am very truly with Respect,

D. Sr. yrs.,

RD. CATON.

John Weems, Esqre.,
Ellicotts Mills P. O.,
Be. Co.

Death and Obituaries

The glorious social life of the Catons became a tradition in the annals of Baltimore; but this could not last forever. And so we find that having reached a ripe old age Richard Caton on May 19, 1845, passed to his eternal rest. It has unfortunately not been possible for the writer to discover where he was buried, but it may be worth while to quote some of the obituaries published in the Baltimore newspapers.

The *Baltimore American* published the following brief notice: [12]

"One of our oldest citizens, Richard Caton, Esq., departed this life yesterday morning after a very brief illness, in the eighty-third year of his age. Mr. Caton was the son-in-law of the late Charles Carroll of Carrollton."

The *American Republican and Baltimore Daily Clipper* under the head of City Intelligence gave a fuller account in the following words: [13]

"*Death of an old and esteemed citizen.* We regret to record the death of Richard Caton, esq., who departed this life yesterday morning after a short illness, in the 83d year of his age. Mr. C. was a native of Lancashire, England, and has been a resident of Baltimore for the last 62 years. He married the eldest daughter of the late Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, and is the father of the Marchioness of Wellesley. Mr. C. has long had the management of large landed estates; possessed a highly enterprising spirit, and was distinguished as an accomplished gentleman of the old school."

[12] This notice was kindly communicated to the writer by Mr. Wm. C. Lane, the Librarian of Harvard College Library, under date of April 5, 1919.

[13] Vol. xii, No. 120 (Tuesday Morning, May 20, 1845), p. 2, col. 3. [From a copy in the Library of Congress.]

Among the papers of the late John H. B. Latrobe there was found a printed invitation to attend the funeral of Mr. Richard Caton, which was directed to him and which gave the place of burial.[14]

Among the biographical clippings collected by the late Dr. Toner and now preserved in the Library of Congress are to be found four short obituaries of Richard Caton, but there is no indication of the sources from which they were obtained.

Richard Caton died intestate and Josias Pennington was appointed his administrator. The latter rendered his first account on November 15, 1849, and his second and last account on July 6, 1853. According to these administrator's accounts, which are recorded in the Baltimore Court-House, it appears that he was attended in his last illness by Drs. Charles S. Davis and N. R. Smith, and that the balance of his estate after the payment of all debts and expenses was paid over to George Neilson, Administrator of James Neilson, on account of a judgment obtained against deceased in his life time.

It would appear that this was the final adjustment of the bankruptcy case which had been hanging over Richard Caton's head for nearly half a century.

Personal Characteristics

It is a tradition that Richard Caton was of an appearance almost as prepossessing as that of his bride, the beautiful Polly Carroll. Tall, dignified and exceptionally handsome, he was striking both in manner and in person. Although he could not boast a princely descent, yet his family, as we have already seen, was eminently respectable. In spite of this, however, he was for long viewed by the older families of Baltimore with considerable jealousy, and was even looked upon by them as being a foreign adventurer.

There can be no doubt that his unusual good fortune was well calculated to excite the enmity of the social circle in which he moved. A man of real ability and of great fascination, albeit rather arrogant in manner, Richard Caton with presum-

[14] Statement made in a letter written by John E. Semmes, March 14, 1919.

ably little of this world's goods to substantiate his claims had at one stroke secured a wife both beautiful and wealthy, and had allied himself with one of the foremost families in the land of his adoption.

Small wonder then that those who envied him in secret were ready to question in public his claim to success and to dwell with scarcely veiled ill-nature on his demerits. It must be admitted evidently that one of his failings must have served his enemies well. It has already been seen that at the time of his engagement to Polly Carroll he had contracted debts which his prospective father-in-law was very anxious to see settled. It will be noted likewise that, whether owing to rash speculation or to an inherent tendency to extravagance, Richard Caton throughout his life showed the same propensity for involving himself in pecuniary straits, an unfortunate propensity inherited by many of his descendants. To a man of the cautious temperament of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, who seems to have loved money for money's sake, this failing in his daughter's husband was a constant source of anxiety and annoyance. It is evident, however, that Richard Caton was in spite of all this a man of undoubted culture and scholarly taste.

As showing some of his peculiarities the following amusing anecdote concerning himself and his daughter Louisa has been handed down to us. Richard Caton, it appears had on three occasions and for a considerable length of time accepted the hospitality of the Shelmerdines of Manchester, a family into which his sister Mary Caton had married. But when one of the Shelmerdines in 1830 proposed visiting Richard Caton in America, the latter replied only too curtly: "Although my house has twenty-eight rooms, it is full from top to bottom." When later, however, Richard Caton himself proposed visiting his daughter at Hornby Castle, he to his extreme surprise experienced the same treatment. "You will have to get a bed at the inn," wrote Louisa in answer to his proposal, "for although my house is large—it is full!" "Louisa always was a proud and saucy puss!" commented Richard Caton, half in amusement, half in anger.[15]

[15] See A. M. W. Stirling, *Op. cit.*, pp. 205, 208, 209, 247, 248.

MRS. RICHARD CATON

(*née* MARY CARROLL)

Reprinted from the *Maryland Historical Magazine*, March, 1922.

Family History

The Carroll family has been so long and so well known in the history of Maryland both as a colony and as a state that there is no need to give an extended account here. Suffice it to recall to mind that the most celebrated of all the Carrolls was Charles Carroll of Carrollton, and it is his daughter Mary Carroll who is the subject of this biographical sketch.

After being educated abroad for many years Charles Carroll of Carrollton returned to Maryland when in his late twenties. After an unfortunate love affair, which was suddenly terminated by the death of the bride-to-be, he was eventually married to Miss Mary Darnall on June 5, 1768.[1]

There have been preserved to us a number of letters written by Charles Carroll of Doughoregan to his son Charles Carroll of Carrollton in the fall of 1770 in which mention is made of the baby who was destined to become Mrs. Richard Caton. We may quote the following phrases:[2]

> Sept. 4, 1770: "I have yrs. of the 2d. by Will. . . . I rejoice in Molly's Happy Delivery & the little Girl it has Pleased God to send us, May she live to be a Comfort to you & Molly & may you Both live long to Enjoy tht. Comfort. . . . I am Glad you are Pleased with yr. House, I am Certain I shall be so."
>
> Oct. 2, 1770: "Pray let me know how you, the Bantling & Molly does. God Bless you all & Grant you Health."
>
> Oct. 18, 1770: "I suppose little Molly begins to know her Mama."
>
> Nov. 30, 1770: "I long to see Our little Girl."

[1] Kate Mason Rowland, *The Life of Charles Carroll of Carrollton*, Vol. I, New York, 1898. See pp. 76-77.

[2] *Maryland Historical Magazine*, Vol. XIII (1918), pp. 54-75: *Extracts from the Carroll Papers*. See pp. 58, 59, 61, 65, 72.

We thus see that though the baby girl was really named Mary, she was called "Molly" in the home circle; and later on as a young girl we find her called "Polly," the latter name even appearing in the official announcement of her marriage published in a Baltimore newspaper.

From her grandfather's letters it is evident that Mary Carroll was born in Annapolis on Sept. 2, 1770, in a house into which the young couple had moved during the summer.

Her distinguished father probably entertained from time to time many guests in his home at Annapolis, among whom we happen to know that there was no less a personage than George Washington himself. Before the war which made him famous he was fond of attending the races at Annapolis, riding over from Mount Vernon on horseback and remaining for a week or more.

The following entry in his diary in his own handwriting leaves no room for doubt as to his having been a guest of Charles Carroll of Carrollton at his home in Annapolis on at least one memorable occasion:[3]

> Octr. 10th. [1772] Dined with Mr. Carroll of Carrollton & set our for Mr. Bouchers which place I arrive at abt. 8 oclock.

At this date Polly Carroll herself was a baby two years old, but it seems likely that George Washington saw her upon this occasion.

Her Portraits

Very little is known to us of Polly Carroll's childhood, except that she was present upon that important and far-famed occasion when General George Washington resigned his commission in the State-House at Annapolis on Dec. 23, 1783. The basis

[3] *Vidimus*, Sept. 12, 1921, G. C. K. This diary is preserved in a small safe in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., and on the date mentioned it was personally examined for the entry in question which is in Washington's own handwriting. Dr. Toner's copy of the diary has a slight error here. Cf. also *The Writings of George Washington*, collected and edited by Worthington Chauncey Ford. Vol. II, New York, 1889. See p. 339: *The Annapolis Races of 1771*, for a probable visit the year before.

for this assertion is the fact that she and her younger sister were included in the famous painting by the American artist John Trumbull, being placed by him by the side of their father Charles Carroll of Carrollton on the floor of the hall while Mrs. Washington and her grand-children were depicted in the gallery.

This painting is usually known by the descriptive title of "Washington Resigning His Commission," and it has been reproduced countless times. The original small painting is owned by the School of the Fine Arts of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, having been acquired from the artist in 1831, while a very large replica of it adorns the Rotunda of the U. S. Capitol at Washington.[4] The artist's first draft apparently (now at Yale) measures but twenty by thirty inches, while that in the Capitol finished about the year 1824 is of huge proportions (twelve by eighteen feet).[5] In the early thirties Trumbull himself painted another but smaller series of his Revolutionary subjects. These measured but six feet by nine, but our painting is not included among the five of this set now in the gallery of the Wadsworth Athenaeum in Hartford, Connecticut. Whether such a painting was ever made is not known to the writer.[6]

When Polly Carroll was a girl in her teens she was included in the family portrait painted at Annapolis shortly after the close of the Revolutionary War. The heads in this famous group were painted by Robert Edge Pine, the body of the work by another artist who included full lengths of all his characters. In the center of the painting is Charles Carroll of Carrollton, saying good-bye to his young son now known to history as Charles Carroll of Homewood, as the latter is starting from Annapolis for France to enter college. Beyond the portrait of

[4] *A Catalogue, with Descriptive Notices, of the Portraits, Busts, etc., Belonging to Yale University, 1892.* [By F. B. Dexter] Printed by order of the Corporation. New Haven, 1892. 8vo, 130 pp. See p. 129.

[5] John F. Weir, N. A., M. A., *John Trumbull; a Brief Sketch of His Life,* to Which is Added a Catalogue of His Works. Prepared for the Committee on the Bi-Centennial Celebration of the Founding of Yale College. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1901. 8vo, xii and 80 pp. See p. 79. [Full-page reproduction opposite p. 72.]

[6] Compare a letter dated September 13, 1921, and written by George H. Langzettel, Secretary of the Yale University School of the Fine Arts.

the son there is a typical sailor, who is pointing to the vessel in the harbor upon which young Carroll is about to embark. On the extreme left is Mrs. Charles Carroll of Carrollton, and standing near is her daughter Mary, afterwards Mrs. Richard Caton, while near her feet is another daughter Catherine, afterwards Mrs. Robert Goodloe Harper. Finally, near the portrait of the elder daughter are two black boys, children of the family servants.[7] This portrait group was afterwards owned by Mrs. Richard Caton herself, and still more recently by Governor John Lee Carroll.

There is also an individual portrait of her by the same artist which represents her as a young girl and which with the passing years has become the most famous of all her portraits.[8] It was no doubt painted by Robert Edge Pine some time during the same visit to Annapolis when he painted the family group. It is to this portrait that the following lines have recently been addressed by a present-day poet:

LINES TO A PORTRAIT OF MRS. RICHARD CATON

(née Polly Carroll, of Carrollton.)

Polly Carroll, long the years,
Fifty, thrice; gone all their tears,
Golden hopes and rusty fears,
Since thy first smile!
Light from quenchless soul of fire—
Carroll, Carrollton, thy sire,
Famed as Maryland's great Squire:
Both without guile.

[7] Description adapted from *The History of the Centennial Celebration of the Inauguration of George Washington as First President of the United States*, edited by Clarence Winthrop Bowen, Ph. D., Secretary of the Committee. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1892. xiv, 673 pp. fol. See illustration oposite p. 98, and p. 434.

[8] *The Sun* (Baltimore, Md.), Vol. CXXXVIII, No. 10 (Sunday, Nov. 26, 1905), p. 8, cols. 1-8: Emily Emerson Lantz, *Suburban Baltimore: Catonsville and Vicinity*. "Mrs. Richard Caton (née Carroll) from an original picture by Robert Edge Pine in the possession of Mrs. Mactavish, of Baltimore."

Flower of noble-minded race,
Friends, adoring, shared thy grace,
Following thee as thou didst trace,
Good woman's way;
Winsome presence, spreading light,
Morning's Star, thy radiant flight,
Gladness gave and none would slight,
Sweet was thy day!

Stately men and matrons grave,
Warriors scarred and patriots brave,
Knew thy charm but more to crave,
And 'round thee moved;
That great chieftain, Washington,
Counted thee, when war was done,
Dearer than all honours won,
A daughter proved.

Rich thy fragrant maidenhood,
Fair thy face, thy spirit good,
Lovers sought, as lovers should,
Low at thy feet;
Captor, captive, both wert thou,
Richard Caton's knightly vow
Bound thy heart and crowned thy brow:
So tales repeat.

Bloom and light of vanished days,
Seen through thickening, dust-strewn haze
Vanquished not, thy beauty stays,
In living lore;
Dust thy form and robes, thy name
Lives in township's treasured fame,
And thy lovely spirit's flame,
Glows, ever more.

March 22, 1919. J. B. CLAYTON.

Her Children

As far as the evidence found indicates, Mrs. Caton had five daughters, but no son; yet this statement is not altogether a certainty, as it seems to have been the custom in the early days for the Carroll family to omit reference to those children that died in infancy. Thus Mrs. Caton herself was commonly referred to as the eldest daughter of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, whereas in reality she had had an elder sister who died in infancy.

The following is a brief statement of the lives of the Caton sisters:

1. Anne, died while yet an infant, May 3, 1789;[9]
2. Mary Ann (later Marianne), married first Robert Patterson, second the Marquis of Wellesley, died Dec. 17, 1853;
3. Elizabeth, married Baron Stafford, died Oct. 29, 1862;
4. Emily, married John Lovat Mactavish, died Jan. 26, 1867;
5. Louisa Catherine, married first Sir Felton Bathurst Hervey, second the Marquis of Carmarthen who became later the Duke of Leeds, died Apr. 8, 1874.

It will thus be seen that the last one of the Caton sisters died nearly eighty-five years after the first one, and nearly a century after her illustrious grandfather had signed the Declaration of Independence.

That Mrs. Caton visited her daughter the Marchioness of Wellesley at her home in Ireland somewhere about the year 1830 would seem to be established by the following passage in a letter which Queen Adelaide of England wrote to Lady Wellesley from Windsor Castle on Oct. 28th:

> ". . . I am delighted to hear that your Mother is still with you. It must be such a comfort to you both & I feel

[9] None of the dates of birth having been ascertained, and only one mention of a daughter named Anne having been found, the list given above must be considered as merely tentative. The usual statement is that there were four Caton sisters.

your happiness with you, knowing from experience so well what a blessing it is to be with a beloved Mother." [10]

Social Life

In the winter of 1790 young Mrs. Caton accompanied her father, then United States senator from Maryland, to New York where she took part in the social festivities connected with George Washington's first term as President of the United States. Mrs. Caton was reputed to be a great beauty both then and afterwards, and quite naturally must have enjoyed the social life to which her father as one of the leading men of the new government was able to introduce her.[11]

That her reputation for sociability and the prestige of beauty lasted long is evidenced by the glowing account given many years later by Madame Ann Royall in her *Black-book,* where she describes the impression made upon her by Charles Carroll of Carrollton's famous daughter.[12] By this time the Caton family had indeed risen to social prominence, as several of the Caton sisters had married Englishmen of noble birth and the trio abroad had become widely known as the "American Graces."

These high connections naturally had an influence upon the family social life even in America, and at this time it was rare for anyone of note to visit Baltimore without their making a pilgrimage to Doughoregan Manor, and we can easily imagine that Mrs. Caton came in for a large share of the attending festivities as the favorite daughter of her illustrious father.[13]

[10] London, England, British Museum, Addit. MS. 37414, f. 66b. The above passage was kindly communicated by Mr. J. P. Gilson, Keeper of the Manuscripts, under date of Oct. 12, 1921. The reference to this manuscript was obtained from: Mary F. Sandars, *The Life and Times of Queen Alelaide.* London: Stanley Paul & Co. [1915]. 8vo, xiv and 299 pp. See p. 126.

[11] A. M. W. Stirling, "A Transatlantic Invasion of 1816," in *The Nineteenth Century and After,* No. cccxciv, December, 1909, pp. 1058-1075. See p. 1059.

[12] Mrs. Ann Royall, *The Black Book; or, A Continuation of Travels, in the United States.* Vol. I. Washington City, D. C.: Printed for the Author, 1828. See p. 104.

[13] See Burke's *Peerage and Baronetage,* Eightieth edition, London, 1921, p. 443, col. 1; p. 1335, col. 1; p. 2042, col. 1; p. 2250, col. 2.

We get another pleasing picture of the Caton family in a letter written in 1841 by a relative from Liverpool. In this a nephew of Mr. Caton describes the sumptuous meals in his uncle's home, the elegant four-horse sleigh used by Mrs. Caton and her daughter Mrs. Mactavish, their many guests, their host of colored servants.

Another phase of her social life is indicated to us by some correspondence with the Maryland literary celebrity John Pendleton Kennedy (1795-1870) which has been preserved among the Kennedy papers of the Peabody Library in Baltimore.[14]

One of these letters has been indorsed on the back by Mr. Kennedy as follows: " Mrs. Caton in 1841 when so blind as to be unable to distinguish persons." This is the letter:

Mr. dear Mr. Ken[ne]dy,

In case you are from home, I write a few indistinct lines to beg Mr. Kenendy's acceptance of a little work of Lord Wellesley's and to ask you both to interest yourselves for the poor McKenzies, Mr. MacTavish's former gardener. They left Baltimore last June for some lands he had in upper Canada, but a variety of ills attended him, and his poor wife is most anxious to return. Therefore if you can employ them by General Harrison, you will do the General a service and a most kind act to the McKenzies. He is an admirable ornamental gardener and understands in all its branches his business. His wife has lived with us many years and we are affectionately attached to her. She is a complete mantua maker, a good trim milliner and a faithful person as well. They have only one child. I have heard the present gardener of the Palace is a bellowing democrat: I could not send my petition through a more charming ambassador and hope I may soon report your success to my poor Mary in the wilderness. My love to Mr. Gray and Martha, and believe me,

Truly yours,

M. Caton.

[14] *Letters to John P. Kennedy*, Vol. 3, No. 54 and especially No. 55, which is given below. [*Vidimus*, G. C. K., Apr. 22, 1919.]

As was to be expected under the circumstances in which it was written, this letter is extremely hard to decipher owing to the poor handwriting. It would appear from its statements and allusions that Mr. MacTavish's gardener had married Mrs. Caton's dressmaker a few years prior to 1841, and that at the time it was written Mr. Kennedy was staying with the owner of Gray's Mill near Ellicott City, Maryland, whose daughter Elizabeth he had married (secondly) on Feb. 5, 1829. Martha was his wife's sister.[15]

There is also extant a letter written by Mrs. Caton from Carrollton Hall [Howard County, Maryland] to her son-in-law Lord Wellesley; it is dated 1 Sept., 1838, and is signed: "Mary Caton." It forms part of the Wellesley Papers now deposited in the Department of Manuscripts of the British Museum.[16]

Death and Obituaries

After the death of Richard Caton in 1845 his widow appears to have gone to live with her daughter Mrs. MacTavish at her elegant country place Folly Quarter on Elk Ridge in Howard County, Maryland, located about eight miles west of Ellicott's Mills. It was here amongst beautiful surroundings that Mrs. Caton at length died on November 14, 1846.

Three days later the following death notice appeared in a Baltimore paper: [17]

> At Elkridge, 14 instant, Mrs. Caton, in her 77th year, relict of Richard Caton, Esq., and eldest daughter of the late Charles Carroll, of Carrollton.

Among the obituary notices published in the newspapers was the following beautiful tribute: [18]

[15] Henry T. Tuckerman, *The Life of John Pendleton Kennedy.* New York: G. P. Putnam & Sons, 1871. 12mo, 490 pp. See pp. 123 and 141.

[16] Addit. MS. 37416, f. 228, according to a letter from Mr. J. P. Gilson, Keeper of the Manuscripts, dated Oct. 14, 1921. Cf. also *Catalogue of Additions to the Manuscripts in the British Museum in the Years MDCCCCVI-MDCCCCX.* [London]: Printed for the Trustees, 1912. 8vo, xviii and 794 pp. See p. 404, col. 1.

[17] *The Sun* (Baltimore, Md.), Vol. XX, No. 1 (Nov. 17, 1846), p. 2, col. 4.

[18] *Baltimore Patriot and Commercial Gazette* (Baltimore, Md.), Vol. 68, No. 119 (Nov. 16, 1846), p. 2, col. 1. (Maryland Historical Society.)

> We learn with regret that Mrs. Caton, relict of the late Richard Caton, Esq., died yesterday, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. MacTavish, the British Consul, in Elkridge. This venerable and excellent lady was the eldest daughter of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton. She survived to a ripe old age, like her distinguished father, and leaves several children, among whom is the Marchioness of Wellesley, to perpetuate her many amiable qualities and high accomplishments, which gave her a grace and charm that attracted to her the warmest regard of the exalted and the humble, to whom she was endeared by many acts of courtesy and kindness.[19]

Personal Characteristics

Mr. John H. B. Latrobe thus describes his personal impressions of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Caton from about the year 1820, when he first met them, until the time of their demise in the middle forties: [20]

" Mr. Richard Caton was a tall, and when young, must have been an extremely handsome man, of graceful and refined manner and good conversational powers. His wife, when I first knew her, was extremely plain, both in person and face, but of all the women I have ever met, she was the most charming. Her enunciation, her manners, her extraordinary tact, made you forget altogether that she was not as handsome as her daughter, Mrs. Patterson. She became blind many years before her death; but, to the very last, retained her wondrous charm of manner."

[19] With slight changes this obituary notice was published again by the *American Republican, and Baltimore Daily Clipper* (Baltimore, Md.), Vol. XV, No. 111 (Nov. 17, 1846), p. 2, col. 2. [Toner Collection, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.]

[20] Quoted from: John E. Semmes, *John H. B. Latrobe and His Times, 1803-1891*, Baltimore, 1917, pp. 215-216. The original quotation was taken from Mr. Latrobe's diary.

Her Homes

It so happens that several of Mrs. Caton's homes [21] have become famous in the annals of Maryland, and hence it will be worth while to consider them briefly here.

She was born in a house at Annapolis,[22] whose exact location has not been ascertained but which was probably not especially pretentious as it was the home of a young married couple.

A good portion of her childhood may well have been spent in her grandfather's Annapolis home, the well-known Carroll Mansion still standing in Annapolis.[23]

Another home in which she evidently spent much time at various periods of her life was the far-famed Doughoregan Manor, which is located on the immense ancestral Carroll estate about five miles west of Ellicott City, Howard County, Maryland.

Her father's well-known Baltimore residence on East Lombard Street was her winter home for many years,[24] and much of her old age was probably spent at her daughter Emily's beautiful home Carrollton Hall located on Elk Ridge, Howard County, Maryland. It was here that she died in 1846.

But all of the above-mentioned homes really belonged to other members of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Caton appear to have had only two homes that were actually their own whether they owned the legal title to them or not: Castle Thunder in

[21] Various Caton homes (all in Maryland) were visited by George C. Keidel as follows:

a. Castle Thunder, Catonsville, Baltimore Co., about 1885;
b. Carrollton Hall ("Folly Quarter"), Howard Co., Nov. 29, 1902;
c. Doughoregan Manor, Howard Co., Oct. 5, 1913;
d. Brooklandwood, Green Spring Valley, Baltimore Co., Oct. 5 and 11, 1920;
e. Carroll Residence, Lombard and Front Sts., Baltimore, Oct. 6, 1920.

[22] Cf. a letter from Charles Carroll of Doughoregan to his son Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Sept. 4th, 1770. (*Md. Hist. Mag.*, Vol. XIII (1918), p. 59).

[23] Cf. Harrison Rhodes, "Annapolis and Annapolitans," in *Harper's Magazine*, Vol. CXXXVIII (1919), pp. 641-654. See p. 649. "The House of Charles Carrollton with its Quaint Monastery Garden Sloping to the Spa," by Vernon Howe Bailey.

[24] *The Sun* (Baltimore, Md.), Vol. XV, No. 11 (Sunday, March 14, 1915), p. *11, cols. 1-8: *Old Baltimore Home with a Fort in its Cellar.*

Catonsville, and Brooklandwood in the Green Spring Valley, both of them located in Baltimore County, Maryland, a few miles from the city.

The first years of their married life appear to have been spent largely at Castle Thunder, which later became the nucleus of the present huge village of Catonsville. This home was eventually abandoned and torn down to make way for a new residence a few years ago.[25] It is here that the Caton family is reputed to have been visited by General George Washington and the Marquis of Lafayette, but no conclusive evidence of this tradition has been found.

The writer of this sketch in his boyhood frequently passed by Castle Thunder, and once at least entered it to survey the interior dilapidation resulting from many years of neglect. As he remembers it after the lapse of many years, it was a two-story yellow brick house (stucco say others, which is probably correct) with mansard roof, narrow windows, and a frame back building.

Several illustrations representing Castle Thunder are still extant,[26] but the house itself is now but a memory. Both the time of its erection and its early history are shrouded in the mists of centuries a-gone.

A few years after her marriage to Richard Caton in 1787, Polly Carroll's father purchased a large tract of land in the Green Spring Valley some ten miles north of Baltimore and on it had erected a large dwelling for the young couple and their growing family, to which was given the picturesque name of

[25] *Real Stories from Baltimore County History*; Data Obtained by the Teachers and Children of Baltimore County (Maryland) Schools, revised and adapted by Isobel Davidson. Baltimore: Warwick & York, Inc., 1917. 12mo, vi and 282 pp. See pp. 164-165, by Catharine Hayden.

[26] *a. The Sun* (Baltimore, Md.), Vol. CXXXVIII, No. 10 (Nov. 26, 1905), p. 8, cols. 1-8: Emily Emerson Lantz, *Suburban Baltimore: Catonsville and Vicinity.* "Former Home of Richard Caton."

b. Baltimore American (Baltimore, Md.), July 19, 1896, p. 21, col. 2: *Delightful Old Homes.* "Castle Thunder, the Home of Mr. Richard Caton."

c. A. M. W. Stirling, *A Painter of Dreams and Other Biographical Studies.* London: John Lane, 1916. 8vo, xvi and 366 pp. See opp. p. 210: "Castle Thunder, the Home of Dr. Richard Caton."

Brooklandwood.[27] This mansion with the passing years has become one of the most famous in Maryland, and the name of its original occupants is still preserved in its beautiful Caton Room.

Here her father the Signer was a frequent visitor, and here her daughters grew to young womanhood to charm both Maryland and English society. Here, too, no doubt, she spent the greater part of her long married life, and here finally is laid the scene of a charming idyll of her old age:[28]

The One Who Stayed

In the springtime, after my father's death, when I was ten years old, my mother's cousin kindly bade me come make a visit at her house of Brooklandwood, in the Green Spring Valley, just outside of Baltimore.

I found Cousin Mary, the mother of the "Three Graces," a tiny old lady, with silver hair and lovely dark eyes. She had the gentlest way with her, and the kindliest. I could not wonder that all were glad to serve her.

Cousin Mary slept much, as do the old, but in her waking hours she was keenly alive to the little world in which she moved. Very proud I was when she asked me to accompany her on her daily visit to the garden. I bore the flat gathering basket, and at times I helped the hands that trembled as they cut the thorny stems.

"I like the white roses best, ma'am," I ventured presently.

"Do you, dear child?" she said. "Those are my dear Anne's favorite flowers, too."

Later, as we paused by a rustic seat, beneath a bower of rose and eglantine, she said: "We sit here often, Anne and I, with our work and our books in the warm days."

Childlike, I grew curious.

"Please ma'am," I asked, "Who is Miss Anne?"

[27] *The Architecture, Interiors and Furniture of the American Colonies During the Eighteenth Century*, selected by G. Henry Polley. Boston, Massachusetts, George H. Polley & Company, publishers [1914]. See plates 55-64 for Brooklandwood views.

[28] Adapted from *Harpers Bazar*, Vol. LII, No. 9 (September, 1917), pp. 54-55: Beulah Marie Dix, *The One Who Stayed.*

" Why, your cousin, child, my daughter Anne," she answered gently, but as one a little hurt.

Then I blushed at my ignorance. No doubt, in my eagerness to hear stories of the three beautiful Caton sisters, I had forgotten what my mother had told me of other daughters of the house.

So the days went until it was the eve of my departure. I was to leave early in the morning, before Cousin Mary had risen. I knew this was my last hour with her.

" I am so sorry," I said from my heart, " to leave you alone."

" Dear little Mattie, " she answered, with her gentle smile, " I shall miss you indeed, but Anne will be back soon."

" She will stay with you? " I asked.

" Oh, yes," said Cousin Mary. " She has always stayed with me. The others went, but to the end my Anne will stay."

So I kissed her farewell, and then I went out to make my silent good-bye to every corner of the place that I had grown to love and might never see again. I passed a little hollow, fenced round with iron palings, where were low headstones. Superstitious child, I had never let my feet stray hither. But now I ventured in, to say good-bye to the dead that were my kindred.

By chance I pushed aside the grass from before a little stone, and graved on it I read:

" Anne, daughter of Richard Caton and of Mary Carroll, departed this life May 3d, 1789, aged ten months and eleven days."