

underwent no further revolution of any importance. The occasional changes which still took place in those of the land office, will presently be noticed.

The history of Maryland abounds in other events and incidents important in themselves, but which have, in general, too little connection with the practice of the land office to require to be noticed in this work. Even those which have a direct relation with land affairs are so blended in their origin or effects with matters of a different nature, that it is difficult to touch upon them without being led into subjects purely historical, and such as it would perhaps be better to pass over entirely than to notice in a partial and imperfect manner.— Among these are the disputes, proceedings, royal orders, and agreements relative to the bounds of the province; and the various transactions, wars, treaties, &c. between the colonists and the Indians. Either of these subjects is too copious to admit of any thing like a regular and full account in the space that could here be assigned for the purpose. The latter has been already dismissed, with a particular reservation. In regard to the disputes of limits, their influence upon some of the (*d*) conditions of plantation and the range which has been taken in other matters, seem to require that the general and most prominent facts at least should be stated. The first contest of lord Baltimore relative to the extent of his grant was with the Virginians: the dispute turned upon the precise situation of Watkins's Point, on which depended the cross line that was to divide the county of Northton or Accomack in Virginia from the districts of Annamessex, Monoakin, &c. in Maryland.

The proprietary's governor claiming the beginning of his patent where it was afterwards acknowledged to be, and finding that settlements had been commenced in that quarter under the authority of Virginia, commissioned John Elzey and two other persons to repair to the place, and grant warrants, under particular and favourable conditions, to such as would take them. On the arrival of these commissioners, and notice of their errand, a demand was made by Edward Scarborough, surveyor general of Virginia, that they should acknowledge obedience (*e*) to his majesty, as being out of lord Baltimore's jurisdiction, and he proposed at the same time the appointment of commissioners to determine the situation of Watkins's Point. Elzey and his associates paid no regard to this requisition, but continued to fulfil the views of the proprietary by encouraging surveys and settlements under his patronage. The dispute was at length terminated by Philip Calvert, chancellor of Maryland and the above

(*d*) Those which relate particularly to the Eastern Shore.

(*e*) Virginia was under a royal, and not a proprietary, government.