

BIBLIOGRAPHIES of the printed works relating specifically to Maryland have usually begun with the tract entitled *A Relation of the successful beginnings of the Lord Baltemore's Plantation in Maryland*, published in London in the year 1634. For some reason no one seems to have observed the absence from the first position in the list of one or more of those promotion tracts that ordinarily announce and advertise a proposed adventure in colonization. It is likely that if this omission had been noticed and commented upon, it would have been explained, satisfactorily enough, by a reminder of the unusual character of a venture intended to provide asylum in America for persecuted English Catholics; the suggestion would have been offered and accepted that under the existing English laws publicity was the last thing desired for his project by the leader of the colony and by his Jesuit advisers. But happily this is a world in which beliefs change and theories undergo reversal. It is easily inferred from the existence of the *Declaration of the Lord Baltemore's Plantation in Maryland*, presented here in facsimile, that the Maryland colonization scheme was promoted in the accepted manner of the time, and if this inference removes the glamor of mystery from the Maryland beginnings, and so displeases the romantic, it compensates for this loss by inducing a better understanding of the origins of the third English-American colony.

It is by no means certain, indeed, that the *Relation* of 1634 was entitled to the place it held at the head of the Maryland list even before the recent recognition of the *Declaration* as claimant for that position, for scholars have long been aware of the existence of an undated edition of the *Charter of Maryland* in twenty-three