

pages, bearing at its head the royal arms of Charles I, which, with some show of reason may in its turn be suggested as the earliest printed document relating to the colony in question. Every one that examines a copy of this edition of the *Charter* admits it as a publication of the first half of the seventeenth century and all agree that the publication of a charter was ordinarily, and naturally, the first step in publicity considered by the individual or company to whom it had been granted. But the status of this edition of the *Charter of Maryland*<sup>1</sup> has not yet been determined with sufficient exactness to justify a claim for it as the earliest printed piece relating to Lord Baltimore's colony. It may be said, however, that the same caution which forbids the complete acceptance at this stage of the Charles I edition of the *Charter* as a publication of the months immediately following the passage of the instrument itself under the Great Seal, on June 20, 1632, forbids also its relegation to a later date of issue.

*A Relation of the successful beginnings of the Lord Baltimore's Plantation in Maryland*, published in London in the year 1634 is an abridged and tactfully amended version in English of an account of the Maryland settlement best known in the form of a Latin manuscript, the "Relatio Itineris in Marilandiam", believed to have been composed by Father Andrew White, the chief of the Jesuit missionaries accompanying the expedition. Appended to it, occupying pages 12-14, is a section headed "Conditions of the plantation," dated July 15, 1634. Because of its early date, its association with Father White, its fresh interest and fine literary quality, and because of the prime historical importance of both of its sections, this first printed account of the Maryland settlement