

In the preceding volume of the records of the Provincial Court (*Arch. Md. XLIV*; xxvi) will be found a summary of the long drawn out suit of Marmaduke Snow against his brother-in-law Thomas Gerard to collect an alleged debt of £1000 by execution upon Gerard's personal property and lands, including St. Clement's Manor where Gerard had his home. Snow won in the Provincial Court, but the Upper House on appeal reversed the order of the Provincial Court at the April-May, 1666, session, and ordered Snow to yield possession of the manor of St. Clement's to Gerard (*Arch. Md. XLIX*, xxvi). Gerard was represented by Thomas Notley and John Morecroft. Almost immediately after the Upper House decided in favor of Gerard, Snow on May 12, 1666, gave Gerard a general release for all claims against him. In this release Gerard is described as "Thomas Gerrard of Machoitick in the County of Westmerland in Vergenia Esq by the name of Thomas Gerrard of the Isle of St. Clements wth the Province of Maryland" (pp. 87-90). This indicates that when dispossessed Gerard had gone to Virginia to live. On the same day that the release was given a writ was issued repossessing Gerard (p. 108). On February 14, 1666/7, Gerard seems to have been living at Mattapany, St. Mary's County (p. 157). Gerard had leased to his son-in-law, Robert Slye on January 26, 1654/5, a tract of 1000 acres called Bushwood, part of St. Clement's Manor, the rent to be two barrels of Indian Corn (or 20 shillings), the lessee "alsoe to doe all th^e duties & services of a Freeholder according to the Custome or law of this Province", and on January 24, 1662/3, actual possession was given by Gerard to Slye "by livery of seizin by Turfe and Twigg" (pp. 220-222). Again on March 22, 1666/7, Gerard, still described as of both Virginia and Maryland in deeds to Slye, leased 500 acres of St. Clement's Manor called Rich Neck, subject to an annual rent of one barrel of Indian corn (or 10 shillings) (pp. 222-226). In December, 1670, a certain Cornelius Cornell was indicted for breaking into and stealing nails from the "mansion house" of Thomas Gerard, of Westwood, St. Mary's County, indicating that Gerard was then living there (p. 621).

A number of manors and manorial lands changed ownership during this period. Thomas Gerard, the lord of St. Clement's Manor, St. Mary's County, one of the largest and most important manors in the Province, containing 6000 acres, and one of the few upon which was exercised the privilege of maintaining a manorial court, was in the process of being disposed of by its owner. Gerard, after a long political dispute with the lords Baltimore and prolonged litigation about St. Clement's Manor with his brother-in-law, Marmaduke Snow, gradually disposed of his Maryland land holdings and removed to Westmoreland County, Virginia (*Arch. Md. LIII*). One of the largest of these transfers was that of "Bushwood", 1000 acres of St. Clement's Manor, which he deeded, January 26, 1664/5, to Robert Slye after his marriage to his daughter, Susanna (pp. 220, 222).

The reader interested in the transfers of manorial lands will find a number of deeds and leases for them in this volume. It is of great interest that in nine of these deeds, possession is stated to have passed "by livery of seizen by turf and twig," witnesses usually stating in open court that they saw possession