

goods that had been brought in on them might be offered for sale (pp. 315, *Arch. Md. V*, 31-32, 47-48).

These forfeiture proceedings were followed by suits for wages by seamen against the ship-owners, and these in turn by suits of the latter against John Pitts, consignee, "who doth absent himself in the woods to void the arrest", on the ground that Pitts had promised the ship-owners that he would attend to all matters pertaining to the ship entries and would see the masters harmless. Pitts, however, later appeared in court. In these suits John Morecroft represented Pitts and Jenifer the ship-owners, and, it may be added, Pitts seems to have won out (pp. 174-5, 184-6, 201, 233, 252). There is also to be found recorded a deposition by Solomon Blackleech, master of the ship *Charles* of Boston, which shows that his wages were three pounds sterling a month (pp. 565-6).

In a deposition in regard to certain goods shipped on the ship *William* of Dover, England, the deponent, John Freeman, declared that on January 28, 1670, he had heard Edmund Maynard, the commander, say that he had been "chased to Mevis [Nevis?] by two men of warre, and it being a starving time there the Governour seized his provision for the use of the Island" (p. 549).

The records of this period show that there was an important trade with New England, and this largely in New England ships. Not only are there frequent mentions of ships and mariners from there, but several powers of attorney from New Englanders are recorded. Of English ports Bristol seems to have been that with which Maryland had the most trade, and Bristol merchants and residents of Bristol are constantly mentioned. Thomas Freeman, a Bristol merchant, traded extensively in Maryland. Following his death in 1668, seven Maryland creditors filed suits in the Provincial Court against his administrator here, Thomas Cooper, for debts aggregating 59,765 pounds of tobacco (pp. 374-378). The index of this volume will reveal the extent of the trade affiliations of Maryland with Bristol.

As illustrating the way in which Maryland merchants traded in their own Province may be cited the case of Fobbe Roberts, a merchant of St. Mary's. On April 15, 1668, Thomas Courtney, apparently as his agent, recorded in court forty-one notes obligatory payable by various Maryland planters to Roberts, doubtless for imported merchandise recently sold to them. The purchasers in these notes obligated themselves to pay at a designated time and place a sum represented by a given number of pounds of tobacco, this tobacco to be delivered to Roberts either at various ports in St. Mary's and Charles counties, or at landing places on a debtor's own plantation (pp. 273-282, 289-290).

#### MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

We find chance mention in this record of various persons, places and things which have local or antiquarian interest.

An early, perhaps the earliest use in the Maryland records of the word *farm* as synonymous with plantation, is to be found in an ejection suit instituted by John Gittings, clerk of the St. Mary's County Court, against Henry Bannister