

knowne . . . Heaven and earth never agreed better to frame a place for man's habitation, were it fully manured and inhabited by industrious people. Here are mountains, hills, plaines, valleyes, rivers, and brookes, all running into a faire Bay, compassed but for the mouth, with fruitful and delightsome land." Smith's enthusiasm was infectious, and given the experience of a Newfoundland winter, it is easy to understand George Calvert's desire to move south.

King Charles I responded favorably to Calvert's request. In February 1632, he directed that Calvert be given lands to the south of Virginia, signing papers to that effect on March 17, 1632. Opponents of the plan persuaded the King to change his mind, however, arguing that a settlement to the south of Virginia might be "so neare unto" that colony that it would "too much restraine the old planters from enlarging their habitations to the southward and by that meanes give them some discouragement." There was also growing concern about Dutch settlements to the north. The King agreed to shift the location of Calvert's grant to placate the Virginia planters and to meet the Dutch threat. He ordered that Calvert be given a charter for all of what is now known as the Delmarva peninsula, along with land westward to the source of the Potomac River between its southern bank and an undefined line drawn from the head of Delaware Bay.

In framing his instructions for the revised grant, the King qualified George Calvert's privileges by insisting that Calvert pay "Customes & duties as other his Ma[jes]ties subjects do," taxes not re-