

side as was formerly added to Kent County doe still remaine and belong to the said County as afore notwithstanding that part of the said proclamation in wittnesse whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and caused the lesser seale of this Province to be hereunto affixed the 19th day of June in the 42th yeare of the Dominion of Cecilius &c Annoq Dmi 1674

To all whom these may Concerne."

The prime mover in the establishment of this county appears to have been Augustine Herrman, perhaps the strongest man in the Province at this time. Although subsequently a loyal adherent of Lord Baltimore it was his discernment, while an ambassador from the Dutch of Manhattan, that recognized the weak point in the Maryland charter by which Delaware was ultimately lost to the Baltimores. The scheme for the establishment of a new county in the northern part of the Province was not new. Already the people had distinguished East Baltimore County from the remainder on the Western Shore and by 1670 Herrman, in his map, had not only named but indicated the bounds of the new county which was not erected by proclamation until four years later.

There is no record showing the extent of that part "of the Easterne side as was formerly added to Kent County." It probably included the settlements on the north side of the Chester and along the Bay perhaps as high as Worton Point. The line, if there ever was one, probably divided the neck between the Sassafras and the Chester from west to east.

The general act for dividing and regulating the several counties of the Eastern Shore passed by the General Assembly of 1706²¹ finally settled the line between Cecil and Kent as it is to-day by enacting that

"From and after the 1st of May 1707, Kent county shall begin at the south point of Eastern neck, and from thence up Chesapeake bay to Sassafras river, and up said river to the south end of the long Horse bridge lying over the head of the said river, and from thence with a line drawn east by south, to the exterior bounds of this province."

The eastern limits of Cecil County formed by the exterior limits of the State have had an unusually interesting history which cannot be given in full in the present paper.²² Each portion of the line has some historic

²¹ Ch. 3.

²² See report on the Resurvey of the Mason and Dixon Line, Md. Geol. Survey, Repts., Vol. VII.