

Catholics would not be persecuted. He gave Maryland to Lord Baltimore as a **proprietary colony**, a colony governed by a single owner, or proprietor.

The first settlement, St. Mary's City, located on the Chesapeake Bay, became the capital. Colonists were allowed to elect an assembly, and in 1649 the **Act of Toleration** forbade religious persecution.

Maryland based its economy on growing tobacco, which required back-breaking work. The tobacco crop quickly used up nutrients in the soil, and workers had to clear more land. Planters were always searching for laborers. Most tobacco workers were either indentured servants or slaves.

Religious Conflict In Maryland The colony did not develop as planned. Some Catholics, such as Margaret Brent, did settle in Maryland. But they were outnumbered by Protestants. In 1645 Puritans tried to seize power in Maryland. Although order was restored, in 1654 Puritans dismissed Maryland's governor. They got rid of the Act of Toleration and replaced it with an anti-Catholic law. Eventually the act was restored. However, it was clear that achieving religious tolerance would be a difficult struggle.

 **PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS** Describe the kind of society planned for Maryland.

COMPARING *Religious Groups*

RELIGION IN THE EARLY COLONIES

In the 17th century, conflict between Catholics and Protestants divided Europeans. In England and its colonies, there were also disagreements among Protestants. These disagreements created a variety of religious groups.

Protestants (do not recognize Pope's authority)				Catholic (Pope leads church.)
Quakers	Baptists	Puritans	Anglicans	
Kings and bishops have no authority.	Church & state should be separate.	No bishops; congregations make decisions.	King heads church. Bishops rule.	Bishops help govern.
silent prayer important	sermon important	sermon important	sermon & Catholic-style ritual	ritual important

CRITICAL THINKING Compare and Contrast Which Protestant denomination was most similar to Catholicism?