

conclusion "February, 10. anno 1633", doubtless the time of the composition of the document, and that the reference is to the year 1633, rather than to the year 1633/34 is obvious for two reasons: the first sentence of the document refers to the passage of the Charter under the Great Seal of England "in June last, 1632"; the closing paragraph of the appended note announces the sailing of the "Arke" from London for Portsmouth on the 20th of August, and from Portsmouth for Maryland "about the Eight of September next, 1633". The date, February 10, 1633, lies between June, 1632, and August, 1633, whereas if February 10, 1633/34, had been intended, the composition of the pamphlet would not have occurred until several months after the expedition it was intended to advertise had sailed from Portsmouth. It will become clear later that the document was almost certainly of Jesuit authorship, and as Catholic and continental Europe at this time had been using the Gregorian calendar for half a century, this fact may account for the new style having been employed in an English publication. Indeed the use of the new style was occasional at this period even in England, where it did not become official until the year 1751. We may safely think of the tract, therefore, as having come from the press about March 1, 1633, new style, or certainly before July of the same year, unless, of course, that phrase, "in June last, 1632", was put in to create difficulties for the bibliographer. Charity forbids us to give credence to that suggestion. But even if the evidence of the dates mentioned in the text failed to support the claim of priority of this tract over the *Relation* of 1634, there would still have to be explained the absence of purpose in issuing a *Declaration* of a proposed