

the growth of corn. A part of the Long Marsh is embraced within its limits, west of which and between it and Chester river, there is an elevated district of table-land found to be very improvable. The upper and central portions of the county although composed of light soil, are by judicious cultivation made to yield handsome returns; some of the neatest farms on the Eastern Shore of Maryland being situated there. The western division of the county, where the land is rolling, in the shallow but sometimes pretty broad valleys through which the small streams empty themselves into the Chester, there are beautiful situations for the formation of artificial meadows. Some enterprising and intelligent farmers have already taken profitable advantage of these situations; but the resource offered in this way to the agricultural interests of Queen Ann's county is no where better evinced than on the estate of Edward M. Tilghman, Esq., in the valley of Reed's creek, between Centreville and Queenstown. Similar improvements might be effected at the heads of Hamilton, South East, and Island creeks. The neck of land known as Spaniard's neck, between the last mentioned creek and the Corsica, also consists of a light sandy loam very favorable to the growth of corn; and it possesses moreover in the extensive Indian deposits of oyster shells that occur on the banks of the Chester, and which will be more fully described in the succeeding section of this report, a resource of the greatest value. Similar deposits occur south of Corsica creek, and as already stated in the preceding section, an abundance of excellent shell-marl. The flat land, on either side of this creek, partaking of the general character of the surrounding soils, improved in many places by the washings from adjacent hills, is found to be more congenial than the upland to the growth of wheat. This appears to be the character of the soil in that section of the county, on Chester river, lying between the mouth of Corsica and Queenstown. In Piney neck, situated between Back-Wye and the Eastern bay, the soil is mostly a clayey loam. Such, likewise, is the nature of the soil in the greater portion of Kent island, fitted by proper management, and perhaps destined by the advantages of its situation, to become at least the subsidiary of Baltimore county for the supply of the growing wants of the great mart of the State: it should be covered with vegetable gardens and orchards. Wye neck, comprising Chew's island, contains soils of a lighter character, but very improvable, and naturally well adapted to