

try justice in withholding this from the public. To obviate this in a slight degree is the object of the following pages and if the writer can ever in a slight degree promote abroad a proper appreciation of our State, his highest aims will be attained.

MARYLAND, the most southern part of that division of the United States of America, formerly called and the "Middle States," now the Border States is situate between the latitude 38° and $39^{\circ} 43'$ north, and between the longitudes $75^{\circ} 03'$ and $79^{\circ} 32'$ west from Greenwich, or $2^{\circ} 31'$ west and $1^{\circ} 58'$ east from Washington. Its outline is extremely irregular, except on the north and east, where Mason and Dixon's line constitutes the frontier, and separates Maryland from the adjoining States of Pennsylvania and Delaware. On the south the Potomac river, with a winding channel and a circuitous general course, is its liminary stream, and divides it from Virginia. The main body of the eastern section is bounded by Delaware State line; but a narrow strip, projecting eastward to the sea, intrudes itself between that State and the Virginia portion of Chesapeake peninsula. The periphery of the State is estimated to be about 766 miles: namely, from the mouth of Potomac river to the source of its north branch, 320 miles; thence north to the Pennsylvania line, 35 miles; thence along that line eastward, 199 miles; thence along the west and south line of Delaware, 122 miles; thence along the Atlantic Ocean, 32 miles; thence across the peninsula to the mouth of Pocomoke river, 20 miles; and directly west to the confluence of Potomac river with Chesapeake Bay, the place of beginning, about 38 miles. Within this outline is contained a superficies of 13,959 square miles; but of this extent only 9,674 square miles are land, the residue being covered by the waters of Chesapeake Bay and its numerous inlets and bays. The State is divided into twenty-one counties of which eight lies on the Eastern and thirteen on the Western Shore. The Chesapeake Bay divides Maryland into two unequal parts called the Eastern Shore composed of the counties of Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline, Talbot, Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester, this is the order in which they are located from north to south, and the Western Shore composed of the counties of Allegany Washington, Frederick, Carroll, Baltimore, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Anne Arundel, Prince George's, Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's.

There are other and natural divisions of Maryland which in considering her material condition it may be convenient to recognize; these are the tide-water, the blue-ridge, and the mountain division of Maryland. The latter part comprising the county of Allegauy. The blue-ridge division, comprising all that part of Maryland not on tide-water, nor the mountain division. The tide-water portion includes all that part of the State not included by the two former. A line from the