

as to secure "a pure atmosphere and other conditions favorable to the growth of a healthy and vigorous population."

In the table of the "Rates of Mortality," showing the percentage of deaths in the population of these different natural divisions, being seven in number, they are less in this Alleghany region than in any other of the regions, except the fifth, which comprises the Pacific coast, and the seventh, which comprises the States of Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota." The difference is, however, very slight, the average for the years 1850 and 1860 in the third division being 1.02 per cent., for the fifth division being 0.93 per cent., and for the seventh 0.99, not quite one per cent. When we remember the different kinds of population of the two other divisions, compared with that forming a large part of our State, the 5th and 7th being inhabited by settlers who mostly go there in the prime of life, hale; hearty and strong emigrants; and the population of Maryland in its Alleghany region being old settlers, composed of the usual proportion of old men, women and children, amongst whom deaths are much more frequent than in those of middle life, and a large emigration of the strongest and healthiest part of its population, it must be acknowledged in all candor that the advantage is decidedly with us. Even the figures as given show but a small advantage in favor of these regions where fewest *people die*, not where the causes that promote health and long life are most abundant. It is not fair to compare the deaths amongst a youthful, strong and vigorous population with that composed of the extremes of infancy and old age. And this is the comparison in the census table between the "Alleghany region, No. III., and the Pacific coast, No. V., and the Northwestern States, No. VII."

But this is not all the correction to be made in that table in favor of our State; more than one-third of her whole population is comprised in the city of Baltimore; in no other state does the same relation exist between the rural and urban population, but we all know that the relative degree of health in the country far exceeds that in large cities, and it is to the health of the *country* part of Maryland, that I am inviting attention. But this is not all yet to be said in our favor; in 1860, per 8th Census, the population of Maryland was about one-eighth free negroes, and the greater mortality amongst this class than any other, will give a much larger per centage to Maryland mortality. The fact well known to us, is stated in the Preliminary Report on the 8th Census, page 6, that "of an excessive mortality amongst the free colored, which is particularly evident in the large cities." In the Preliminary Report on the eighth census, the table on page 22, shows Maryland in an equally favorable light, and when taken in connection with the facts mentioned above, as to the large proportion of urban population in Maryland, compared with the rural, and the existence of a large class in our State, amongst