

river on the west, separating it from the counties of Prince George's in its upper, Charles in its middle and St. Mary's in its lower part, on the south it terminates in a point called Drum Point.

It is about forty miles long, with an average breadth of about eight miles. Its productions are those common to the section, and its variety of soil is capable of raising them all to the highest degree of perfection.

The *soil* of this county consists of a very fine quality of the "Green Sand Soil the South and West river soils," in its northern part, and in the neighborhood of Smithville. On the bay shore, the soil, as we proceed down the bay, becomes somewhat lighter in texture, but more especially adapted to the growth of the finest qualities of tobacco, early fruits and vegetables.

The other varieties are of the class known as white oak soils, sandy soils, gravelly loams, with occasional red clay soils of various degrees of strength.

The face of the country is rolling and in some places hilly. On the bay it has bold, abrupt shores and bluffs, several hundred feet above the surface of the water. The dwelling houses command a thorough view of the bay and of the back country. One can see from them all the diversity of hill and dale, cultivated fields, flocks and herds, and at the same time ships of every nation and of all sizes passing in full view, bearing the products of every clime to market. On the Patuxent the shores are clear, and rise at a short distance in the interior in fine, bold hills and gently undulating plains. The geography of the county shows its facilities for the cheapest transportation, by tide water navigation, either from the Patuxent or from the bay, by means of steamboats or sailing vessels, which daily pass to and from its shores to Baltimore, about five hours' distant. In many parts of the county are large and valuable deposits of shell marl, capable of improving the adjacent soils to a very high degree; in some places are large shell banks, which also afford most excellent fertilizing material at the cheapest rates. The shell from the oysters which abound in its waters are also valuable sources of manure.

The bay and river afford fine fisheries of shad, herring, and many other varieties of excellent fish, whilst wild duck, geese and swan, &c., are found in very large numbers. The land in this county is *very cheap*; good farms, well improved with buildings, and of the best variety of soil, can be purchased at from fifteen to sixty dollars per acre, according to their location. Much of the land can be purchased at a rate not exceeding ten dollars per acre, and some even at a less price. There is none of this but what can be cheaply improved and made to produce large crops of the kind adapted to the dif-