

In addition to the oysters, terrapins, wild duck, geese and swan, some of the largest shad and herring fisheries in the United States are on the shores of the Potomac in this county. Millions of herring and thousands of shad are here taken during the season and salted for exportation or domestic use. The refuse of these, with numerous other fish not fit for pickling, furnish, as I have said before, one of the best, cheapest and quickest manures, and if proper attention were given to it, would afford enough annually for the use of the county to the exclusion of all foreign manures.

The negro population of this county was proportionably large before the war, the loss of this, together with the destruction produced by large bodies of troops stationed here have very much injured the resources of its people, and as a consequence, good lands, well improved, can be bought every cheaply here. There is a large quantity of every class in the market for sale at rates which would find ready purchasers if those in want of land or farms could know of their value.

The price of land here will vary from five to seventy-five dollars, per acre and may be bought at this rate in large contiguous tracts. Double these prices in gold currency could have been obtained before the war. From a recollection of the boundaries of the county, its facilities for transportation will be known to be most thorough and complete. On its eastern border the Patuxent affords the best kind of transportation to Baltimore, whilst the Potomac river gives all that can be obtained by direct tide-water navigation to the markets of Washington, Georgetown, Alexandria, and also with but little delay to Baltimore. Every part of the county is within convenient distance of daily steamboat navigation to the great heads of consumption and export to the Southern and Middle States, viz., Baltimore, Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria.

The character of its population would make a residence here most inviting to anyone if of a genial disposition and desirous of partaking in all the amenities of polished civilization.

The County town is Port Tobacco, a small village at the head of Port Tobacco creek, about thirty-two miles distant from Washington city.

The Baltimore and Potomac Railroad will have its terminus on the Potomac in this county and give direct railroad facilities to Washington, Baltimore and the Northern cities.