

But, if not another foot of railway or canal be made in this section, its natural transportation far exceeds any other portion of the country.

Tide water navigation is of course much cheaper than canal navigation, for on it no tolls are to be paid, and every part of this whole region lies almost directly upon it and immediately adjacent to the great centres of export and consumption. The price of the farm produce at these points less the cost of production and transportation, is the value of the articles produced. Now, although new Western lands, or those in the interior, may in some places produce a few bushels more of corn or wheat to the acre, yet the nett produce, in money, will not be equal to a less quantity produced here, owing to the increased charge for transportation to market. For the same reasons, all articles bought at a distance will cost more than when near their place of importation and first sale.

Besides the above advantages of transportation, there is a system of railroads, part of which is already completed and in operation, which will give *every neighborhood* all the advantages which these speedy modes of transportation can afford.

#### CECIL COUNTY.

That part of this county which lies south of the P. W. and B. Railroad is bounded on the east by the State of Delaware, south by the Sassafras river, which separates it from Kent county, and on the west by the Chesapeake bay, with a length of about twenty, and a mean breadth of about fifteen miles. It is the most northern county on the Eastern Shore.

The soil embraces all varieties, from stiff, heavy clays to light ferruginous sands, and therefore adapted to every variety of crop which the latitude will allow to be produced. Much of the land has been improved to a very high degree, and much remains unimproved to amply repay for all the cost of money and labor that may be bestowed on it.

The variety of white oak soil in various parts of the county lie contiguous to the means (oyster shell, lime and shell marls) for their improvement, whilst the heavy clays and all the various transitions from this to light sandy soils in the southern part of the county have the same advantage. In many sections of the county rich shell marl and green sand marl abounds, and is easily obtainable, whilst to all of it foreign concentrated artificial manures can be brought with the speediest and cheapest transportation.

The land lies high, and its natural drainage is very good, there being more than an hundred feet fall from the *backbone* of the county to its water boundaries.