

good shell marl—most cheap and efficient manures for the improvement of land.

This county is almost entirely surrounded by the Chesapeake Bay, and bold, deep rivers, navigable in their whole extent for first-class steamers and sailing vessels. The Choptank gives speedy communication with Baltimore and all sections, to its western parts, whilst the Nanticoke, with numerous branches of the Bay afford direct communication with every portion of the country to all of its remaining portions.

A Railroad is projected from near Seaford, in Delaware to Cambridge, whose speedy completion is placed beyond doubt, which will give direct communication to Philadelphia and the North. The transportation facilities for this county will then be most thorough and complete.

The most abundant quantities of oysters and other shell fish, with all the varieties of the fish and wild fowl found in the Chesapeake waters are found in this county and its adjacent waters.

The County town is Cambridge, near the centre of the northern border of this county on the Choptank River, a well-built and thriving place, distinguished for the social elegance and fine horticultural skill of its population, scarcely rivaled in other portions of the country.

#### SOMERSET COUNTY.

This is the most western of the two most southern counties of the Eastern Shore. It is bounded on the north by the Delaware Line, on the south by Pocomoke Sound, an expansion of the Chesapeake Bay, on the east by the Pocomoke River, which separates it for a long distance from Worcester county, and on the west by the Nanticoke River, which separates it from Dorchester.

Its area is about three hundred and ten thousand acres.

The face of the country is gently rolling in the northern part on the table lands which separates its streams, but as we proceed to its southern border in the more immediate neighborhood of the Sound, the surface is level and flat, but still affording sufficient fall for all necessary drainage.

The soils in the upper part of the county are mostly a sandy loam, except in the neighborhood of tide water, where it assumes the character of the white oak soil. In the middle and southern portions it alternates with fine white oak soils, occasionally with a sub-soil of red or yellow clay. There is also in several parts of the county considerable portions of the soil known as the Black Gum swamp soils, of excellent quality, and producing good yield of such crops as may be suited to its texture.