

plain, or tide-water district, as it is called, embraces nearly one-half of the territory of the State.

The sections divided by the Chesapeake Bay are denominated Eastern and Western Shores.

The Eastern Shore proceeding in order from the South, embraces the counties of Worcester, Somerset, Dorchester, Talbot, Caroline, Queen Anne's, Kent and Cecil. The surface of the Eastern Shore, which forms part of the peninsula lying between the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays, is low and level, except in the northern part, where it is somewhat broken and hilly. The soil is generally sandy. A variety of soil denominated "white oak," which is white, very fine, feeling but slightly gritty, of compact texture, with great retentiveness and moisture. It is usually good corn land.

The tide-water district of the Western Shore includes the counties of St. Mary's, Charles, Prince George's, Calvert, Anne Arundel, Montgomery, Howard, Baltimore and Harford, although the last three, in surface and soil, are to some extent allied with the hilly or mountainous portion of the State, yet scientifically these counties are all grouped together. This district includes the earliest settlements of Lord Baltimore, and the Capital of the State.

The Mountainous District, so called, includes the counties of Carroll, Frederick, Washington and Allegany, in the range of stratified rocks, granite, (or more properly gneiss), slates and limestone, which lie nearly parallel with the Atlantic coast, and form the limit of the tertiary formation. The width of this range from its eastern border to the points where it is covered with "middle secondary red sandstone," is from twenty to thirty miles. This region is characterized by hills of moderate height, whose rounded summits present a striking contrast to the long parallel ridges of the Alleghanies. They are covered with verdure, and the streams which intersect them are, for the most part, characterized by abrupt banks with very small tracts of alluvial soil.

NAVIGABLE WATERS.

The Chesapeake Bay is navigable throughout its whole extent, for large vessels. Length about 200 miles, breadth from 4 to 40 miles; between Capes Charles and Henry 12 miles. All the rivers of the State, except the Youghiogheny and its branches, empty into the Chesapeake Bay. The Potomac is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide at its mouth and is navigable for the largest ships to Washington, 100 miles. The Patuxent, for small craft, 60 miles, though for a considerable distance the largest vessels find plenty of water. Into this river a sharp point of land makes out from the Calvert county side, inside of which there is depth of water and capacity for the navies of the world. The Patapsco is navigable for the largest vessels to Baltimore city, 12 miles. The Susquehanna, from Pennsyl-