

land, Frederick and Hagerstown, there are no cities or towns of any considerable moment, and the employment of the people necessarily rural.

LAND.

There is no unsold or unoccupied land in the State, though there is a very large quantity for sale, at prices ranging from \$5 to \$500 per acre. The latter price, however, is only asked for land contiguous to the city of Baltimore, which it is reasonably anticipated will ere long form part of its corporate limits. The best farming land in the State can be bought for \$30 to \$100 per acre, according to location; and good land can be bought as low as \$10 to \$15—worn out land \$5. In certain sections, especially the lower or bay counties, land is held in large tracts, frequently from one to five thousand acres. The change in the labor system by the abolition of slavery, renders these large tracts burdensome to the owners, and hence a great deal is thrown upon the market for sale, the terms of which are convenient, rarely more than one-third of the purchase money being required to be paid in cash. The poorest of this land is found by experiment to be adapted to the cultivation of fruit, and with industry could be made to yield as profitable a crop as the best lands in the State with the alternating crops of wheat, corn and tobacco.

EDUCATION.

A uniform system of public instruction for the State was adopted by the Legislature of 1865. It embraces Primary, Grammar and High Schools, Colleges, Medical and Law Schools. A uniform series of text books is used. The Primary and Grammar Schools are free, supported by State and local tax, and the State Free School Fund. There is also a college for young ladies in Baltimore; an Agricultural college and a State Normal School, encouraged, and the latter supported by State donations.

There are also many excellent private institutions of learning in the State, among which may be named the Maryland Institute for the promotion of the mechanical arts, which sustains schools of design for architectural and mechanical drawing, schools of chemistry, music and bookkeeping, and contains a library with over 12,000 volumes; the Medical School of the University of Maryland, St. James' (Episcopal) College, near Hagerstown; St. Mary's, near Emmitsburg; Loyola (Catholic) Baltimore; Mt. Washington Female College (Methodist), and Lutherville Female Seminary, near Baltimore; St. Timothy's Hall, male, at Catonsville, Prof. Knapp's Male German Academy, Rev. Dr. Scheib's "Zion" School (German) male and female; and a large number of other private institutions of learning, twenty-nine of which are conducted in the German language.