

that it has a larger distribution of water (enclosed by the Chesapeake bay and its tributaries,) than any other State or Territory, and a study of the oceanic currents, the Gulf stream and the the return current passing from the north along our coast, will show how these modify each other, and tend to give us a good climate. The influence of large bodies of water in moderating and lessening the severity of climate, and preventing sudden and excessive changes is shown by a few philosophical facts, which I shall briefly mention. Persons knowing these facts and knowing our Geography, will at once see the truth of my statements; the powerful agency which water has in controlling climate is due to its great specific heat, which is four times greater than that of air; that is, a pound of water in cooling one degree would warm four pounds of air one degree. But as water is 770 times heavier than air, it is obvious that a cubic foot of water in cooling one degree would warm four times 770 or 3,080 cubic feet of air one degree; hence the vast amount of heat stored up in oceans and bays during summer, being gradually imparted to the air during winter, modifies the severity of the cold and explains the fact that Island winters are more moderate than those of Continents or inland places.

The pleasantness of a sea side residence in the heats of summer is a fact attested by universal experience. It will be seen on the map that a large part of Maryland, that offering the greatest inducement to capitalists and men seeking homes, must possess almost an insular climate divided as it is by the Chesapeake and permeated every where by numerous creeks, small bays and inlets.