

tality is found by the census to rise above, though not much above, the general average of the whole country. In every few years, however, it is well known that the low portions from Norfolk, southward and extending around the Gulf of Mexico, are visited by epidemic disease, when the mortality rises much higher than the ordinary amount." This Division, northwardly, begins in Maryland, and here the above description does not suit. The part of it in Maryland is very different from where "the sea and shore meets for the most part in a mingled series of bays, inlets, estuaries and small islands just above tide."

The description of the soil, as applied to tide-water, is equally inaccurate, and the facts in the last sentence of the Report not only do not apply to the Maryland part of this division, but are totally opposite to them as they exist in it. This sentence is as follows: "In every few years, however, it is well known that the low portions from Norfolk southward, and extending around the Gulf of Mexico, are visited by epidemic diseases, when the mortality rises much higher than the ordinary amount." Now, the Maryland part of this division has been *singularly* exempt above all the rest of the country from epidemics. When the cholera of 1832 visited and made almost every home a house of mourning in the United States, the rural part of this region escaped its ravages. It nowhere assumed, in this part of Maryland, an epidemic form. Very few cases originated here; some few deaths occurred from it, but the disease was taken in cities away from this section and did not spread even when brought into it. This shows how strong the natural agencies are, here, which counteract the generative and spread of the fatal epidemic. What is true of the cholera in 1832 is equally true of it at its second visitation in 1849 and its last visitation, and the same is true of the yellow fever and other general epidemics. Another table in the same report, that of the "Deaths in the United States for the year ending June 1st, 1860," is equally conclusive in favor not only of the superior health of Maryland, but, when properly estimated, of the peculiar health of this tide-water section.

That table shows that the per centage of deaths is less in Maryland than any other of the "old thirteen," except Pennsylvania, the deaths in Maryland being 1.09 (one and nine one hundredths of one per cent,) and in Pennsylvania, 1.06, (one and six one hundredths of one per cent only, and .03 per cent only at the rate of three one hundredths of one per cent more in Maryland than in Pennsylvania. Now make due allowance for the greater proportion of the city to the country population in Maryland, than in Pennsylvania, and the difference in favor of the latter is not only destroyed, but stands in favor of Maryland, but make the farther allowance for the "excessive mortality" amongst the free negro popu-