

For the most part, the Railroad through the tide-water section of Maryland runs through the most unproductive and uninteresting part of it.

Familiar as I am with the whole State, I know of no district in it of the same extent as that traversed by the Philadelphia and Wilmington and the Baltimore and Washington Road, on which so much of poor, unpromising and barren soil could be found, none on which a far greater quantity of rich and fertile soil would not be apparent.

It is a most mistaken idea to judge of tide-water Maryland by the country through which the Railroad passes. It is vastly inferior to the average of any other part of the same extent and only represents itself. It is no index of the adjacent soils. Yet even on this by far the worst part, improvement, by proper means, is easily made—the texture of the soil can be rapidly changed to a very good condition. This is the most difficult part of soil improvement—and the judicious application of the directly nourishing substances will always insure most remunerative production.

This particular part has the very great advantage of easy, constant and quick access to the cities of Annapolis, Washington and Baltimore; persons can enjoy all the healthful, cheap pleasures of a country life whilst attending to their daily pursuits in these cities. The cars pass at nearly every hour of the day, and the lawyer, banker, mechanic or merchant can exercise all his professional functions in the city, and enjoy at the same time the quiet and retirement of a country life, can improve their health by life-giving exercise in rural pursuits, and at the same time give all necessary attention to business in these cities, whether in public employment or engaged in the private pursuits of life. These are conveniences that make up for many of the natural deficiencies of soil in this particular section, and must necessarily tend to enhance the value of property here. Already much of it has been purchased by persons engaged in cities for the purpose of permanent residence, and this action will be greatly on the increase in the future. Healthful, pure country air, quiet, abundance of room, grassy lawns, fresh fruit, flowers and vegetables daily raised in our own air, on our own ground, are blessings which vindicate their own excellence, and are appreciated by none more than those who have to incur the wear and tear of mechanical, mercantile and professional pursuits. Capital will seek these places as soon as their merits are known.