

ferent varieties of the soil. All of it can be improved to an extent of production in crop value equalling the best of the western and northwestern lands, at a cost less than the clearing and putting in cultivation of these lands; the climate and geographical position being incomparable—superior to the western land. The county has been always proverbial for the kindness and hospitality of its inhabitants. No taverns, save one at the county town, exist in this county. Near the mouth of the Patuxent river is one of the largest, if not the very largest and best harbors in the world. The depth of water and safety of anchorage, with other advantages, being without a parallel in this or any other country, as I have ascertained from most competent authority.

No site in the Union is so favorable for a great naval depot or navy yard.

The Great Eastern could come up and lie so near the land in quiet, still, calm water, that its Captain could catch a boquet thrown to him from a bower on the shore, ere he departed for a cruise around the world!!!

CHARLES COUNTY.

This county lies immediately south of Prince George's, which is its northern boundary; on the east it is bounded by the lower district of Prince George, and the Patuxent river which separates it from Calvert, and the upper part of St. Mary's county; on the south and west by the Potomac. Its average breadth and width, however, is about twenty miles. It contains about 260,000 acres of land.

The soil is composed of the different varieties found in the counties already described. Near Benedict, on the Patuxent, the South and West River (Green Sand) variety of soil is found and on Port Tobacco Creek considerable quantity of the same variety, possessing all the characteristics of this famous soil exists. In the middle portions of the county is found principally the variety of soil known as the Table land soil already described as existing in Prince George's county. In the lower portion of the county the very best varieties of "white oak" soil exists, whilst on the Potomac the soil generally is a ferruginous, sandy loam, easily worked, easily improved, and producing abundantly every variety of fruits and vegetables, corn and tobacco. The grape grows well in this county, and as in other parts of this peninsula, might be made a profitable source of cultivation.

There are in several parts of the county good shell and green sand marls for improving the soils, with abundance of lime easily obtained from the shell-fish in its waters. The refuse of fisheries, which abound in this county, affords a large supply of the *cheapest* and *best* manure.