

The Philadelphia & Baltimore Central Railroad is now under construction and will greatly add to the facilities for transportation which this county already enjoys. It will pass nearly through its central portion and connect with the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad at Stemmer's Run, near Baltimore city. It has the Chesapeake Bay with numerous arms projecting inland, as its eastern tide-water boundary.

Notwithstanding the rapid and substantial progress which this county has made in its agriculture, demonstrating the goodness of its soil, with all the advantages enumerated above, yet its lands do not, in the main, sell for more than fifty per cent as much as those of the same quality in the northern and western States. This of course can only arise from the want of a proper understanding of their value, when a knowledge of this shall be diffused, the lands of this county will be sought for, and great enhancement in price must necessarily result; with quiet and just government the future of this county is full of promise.

It has fine water power, widely diffused, and some of the most valuable minerals and ores, amongst which its iron ore of several excellent varieties, chrome, asbestos and porcelain clay, stand preminent. Its building brick clay is also of fine quality and may be found almost in every part of the county. To this may be added for building purposes some good varieties of marble, limestone, granite, &c.

Its waters abound in the finest varieties of wild ducks, geese and swan, with most extensive shad and herring fisheries, long famous for the fine quality of their products, together with the almost innumerable varieties of fish common to the Chesapeake Bay.

Its population are intelligent, well educated, energetic and industrious, and possess all the social characteristics which have been prominent in the character of our State.

BALTIMORE COUNTY.

This is one of the largest and the most important of all the civil divisions of the State, whether we regard its wealth, its population, the amount of its water power, the number, variety and extent of its manufacturing establishments or the great value and variety of the raw mineral material found within its borders. It is bounded on the north by Pennsylvania, on the south by the Chesapeake Bay and the Patapsco river which separates it from Anne Arundel county, on the east by Gunpowder river and Harford county, and on the west by Carroll county and the Patapsco river, which separates it from Howard county. It contains about four hundred and four thousand (404,000) acres of land.