

simple, the streams flowing from the watershed directly to the Atlantic Ocean and Delaware Bay upon the east, and to the Chesapeake Bay upon the west. The position of the watershed along the extreme eastern margin of the area is very striking; in Worcester county for much of the distance it is only a few miles distant from the Atlantic shore, and as a result the streams which flow to the east are small in comparison to those which drain toward the west. Among the most important rivers which reach the Chesapeake Bay from this area are the Pocomoke, Nanticoke, Choptank and Chester, which all have their headwaters within the state of Delaware and flow in a general southwest direction with sinuous channels.

The *western division* includes the counties of St. Mary's, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, Anne Arundel, and portions of Baltimore, Harford and Cecil. In elevation this region stands in striking contrast to the eastern division, since it frequently has an altitude of 100 feet even along its eastern margin. In lower St. Mary's county the land reaches an elevation of 100 feet on the Bay shore, which is gradually increased westward, until, near the border of Charles county, it slightly exceeds 180 feet. In southern Calvert county an elevation of 140 feet is found to the west of Cove Point and this gradually increases to the northward and northwestward until near the southern border of Anne Arundel county the land rises above 180 feet. Throughout the western portion of this division in Charles, Prince George's and Anne Arundel counties the land gradually increases in height toward the border, reaching 280 feet to the east of Washington and very nearly the same elevation in the area to the south of Baltimore. Outlying patches of the Coastal Plain, as determined by their geological characteristics, are found at still higher elevations. This western division is traversed by several rivers which flow from the Piedmont Plateau, among the more important being the Potomac, Patuxent, Patapsco, Gunpowder and Susquehanna. The course of the Potomac is especially striking. After flowing in a nearly southeast direction across the hard rocks of the Piedmont Plateau, it is apparently abruptly turned aside by the soft materials of the Coastal Plain, and takes a course for forty miles nearly at right angles to that which