

BALTIMORE,

ITS GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION—HISTORY—POPULATION—
PUBLIC BUILDINGS—MANUFACTURES—COMMERCE—PUB-
LIC INSTITUTIONS—LITERATURE, ETC.

Chapter I.—Topography of Baltimore.

OUR purpose being to present a clear and concise view of our City, its present condition, its government, its manufactures, its commerce, its public buildings and other improvements; (together with a variety of other information which we take not to be generally available;) we intend to confine ourselves to plain matter of fact; preferring accuracy to ornament. As we write, in part, for the benefit of those who are not acquainted with the localities of Baltimore, we propose in the first place, to give a brief geographical description of the City; with which the reader will find it necessary to become acquainted, in order to have a full conception of some other subjects which we propose to treat of.

The city of Baltimore is situated on a creek or inlet of the Patapsco river, commonly called the basin, the average breadth of which is a quarter of a mile, its length one mile and three quarters. The depth of water for more than half the length of this inlet is sufficient to float ships of the largest dimensions, and the harbor which it forms is uncommonly spacious and commodious. As yet, the city is chiefly confined to the north side of the basin, but there can be no doubt that in the course of a very few years, it will extend along the other side also. Indeed, there are already many streets laid out in that quarter; manufactories and works of various descriptions are erected there, and every thing seems to promise that that district will, ere long, be the centre of considerable business. At the same time, the City is rapidly progressing along the northern side of the harbor, to which result the efforts of the Canton Company, aided by an immense capital, contribute in an eminent degree.

The site of Baltimore is, in most parts *hilly*; a circumstance which, on some accounts, is far from being a disadvantage. In the neighborhood, there are a number of streams, some of which intersect the city; the principal one of these latter is Jones's Falls, (by some termed the northern branch of the Patapsco,) which, as it approaches the basin, may well be called a small

