

river. It passes through the city in a direction varying little from north and south. This fine stream is of incalculable benefit in affording the city a constant supply of pure and excellent water, which is raised by machinery, and distributed by pipes through every street. Nor is this the only advantage for which the citizens of Baltimore are indebted to Jones's Falls;—it gives motion to a number of mills and factories, and that portion of the stream which runs through the City, answers many purposes of a common sewer. True, the falls, are productive of one evil, which, at the first glance, appears almost to neutralize the benefits we have just mentioned. The ground through which this stream flows being of a loose nature, and having a very considerable descent, the consequence is that, (especially after copious rains,) a large alluvial deposit is carried into the basin, the removal of which deposit is a constant expense to the city. As a remedy for this evil, it has been proposed to divert the course of the falls, by means of a canal or tunnel, to Herring Run, which is four miles distant from the city. The expense of this scheme it is thought would not exceed a sum the interest on which is now expended in temporary removals of the inconvenience. It must be observed, however, that to this evil, so called, the City is in a great measure indebted for the vast improvements about the City Block; where many acres of good ground have been formed of the aforesaid deposits, raised by the mud-machines and applied to that purpose. The space thus recovered from the river will, at some time, (we have reason to think,) be as valuable as any other ground in Baltimore; besides the health and beauty of that portion of the city have been greatly improved by the process of its formation.

When it has been stated that there are many streams in the neighborhood—and that the ground is generally hilly, the reader will probably suppose that the water power is considerable. This is truly the case, and in this respect Baltimore is unrivalled by any other city on the American continent. On this topic we shall enlarge when speaking of Manufactories, Mills, &c. See chap. viii.

From those immediate topographical advantages of Baltimore, we proceed to speak of those which, though more remote, are of the greatest importance, as being highly conducive to her prosperity. Patapsco river empties into that magnificent sheet of water called Chesapeake Bay, at about the distance of fourteen miles from the city. This bay also receives the waters of the Susquehanna, the Potomac, the Choptank and numerous other streams, and is connected at Capes Charles and Henry with the Atlantic Ocean. In a commercial point of view, the benefits of this situation are incalculable. Besides a favorable vicinity to the ocean which it affords, the tributary streams of the Chesapeake open a communication, by water, with a vast extent of country, including distant portions of several different States. On the waters of the Susquehanna alone, immense quantities of mer-



