

## **BALTIMORE.**

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It was near one hundred years after the landing of the first colonists in Maryland, and just a hundred years ago, that the settlers on the Patapsco river applied for a law to erect a town at the head of the N. W. Branch of that river, which, in honour of the Calvert family, they named after the town of Baltimore in Ireland, from whence their title to the peerage of that kingdom was derived, and where they held considerable estates, though born and generally resident in England.

Baltimore has a harbour which admits of frigates and merchant ships of the largest class, and is secure in all weathers, being distant about 200 miles from sea and not much more from the Ohio river; near the temperate latitude of 39 North, and centre of the state and country; surrounded by land and water, furnishing every means of subsistence, enterprize and enjoyment required by an extensive and enlightened population.

The first grounds laid out for the town, of sixty acres only, was part of a tract called Cole's Harbour, and purchased in 1729 of Mr. Carroll, the father of the signer of the Declaration of Independence, of the same name, at the moderate price of \$5 33 per acre, by Messrs. Tolley, Hamilton, Buckner, Walker, Gist, Buchanan and Hammond, commissioners named in the law.

There were as many lots as acres, though not exactly regular in size or form, to be taken at the rate of the purchase money, and only three streets, which were those called Baltimore, running from east to west, and Calvert and Charles, crossing the first at right angles; and the town was extended from time to time, nearly equal in every direction, from the intersection of Baltimore and Calvert-streets.