

During the months of March and April, 1826, there passed Marietta, a village four miles above Columbia, 65 keel boats, 895 rafts, and 813 arks, which at a moderate estimate was valued at 1,100,000 dollars.

The *Potomac River*, rising at the eastern base, and rushing between ridges of the Alleghany mountains, thence as it were, breaking through the blue ridge and South mountain, flows in a rapid stream into the Chesapeake, 105 miles below the head of that bay. This river, from its source to the mouth, is the south west boundary of Maryland, dividing it from the state of Virginia; interrupted however, for the space of a few miles by the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, in which, upon the Maryland side, is situated the city of Washington, the seat of the National Government. This part of the territory, as well as Georgetown, situate within the limits of the District, was ceded by the State of Maryland to the nation, in the year 1790 for the purpose of erecting a FEDERAL CITY. It is the characteristic of the Potomac that its head waters approach much nearer, and furnish a short and better course, for connecting with the waters of the great western valley, and communicating to the Mississippi, than any other of the Atlantic streams. Surveys have been made under the direction of the states of Maryland and Virginia, and recently by a corps of Engineers under directions from the United States authorities, to ascertain