

A SKETCH OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, the third city in the United States in size and population, is situated on an arm of the Patapsco river, 14 miles from its entrance into Chesapeake bay; and 175 miles from the ocean. Its latitude is $39^{\circ} 17' 23''$ N.—longitude $76^{\circ} 37' 30''$ W. from Greenwich, and $0^{\circ} 25'$ from Washington. It is 40 miles N. E. from Washington; 97 S. W. from Philadelphia; 185 S. W. from New York; 398 S. W. from Boston; 160 N. N. E. from Richmond; 228 E. S. E. from Pittsburg; 311 E. S. E. from Wheeling; and 590 N. N. E. from Charleston.

The arm of the Patapsco on which the city is built, is about three miles long, and varies in width from one-eighth of a mile to a mile and three-quarters, having its greatest width opposite to the eastern extension of the city, called Canton. It affords an easy access to the city, and a harbor sufficiently capacious to contain two thousand vessels. The harbor consists of an outer bay between Fell's Point and Canton, on the north and east, and Whetstone Point on the south, and the inner basin a circular body of water at the head of the stream. The basin is navigable to vessels drawing only ten or twelve feet of water, but the outer portion of the harbor is sufficiently deep to float ships of the largest class. From the facilities afforded by the depth of the water at Fell's Point, it is the seat of the principal ship yards, from which some of the finest and fleetest vessels of the American Marine have been launched. The entrance to the harbor is defended by Fort McHenry, which is situated at the point of the peninsula running between the harbor and the Patapsco river. It is memorable for the successful defence against the British fleet in 1814. A larger fort is now in process of erection at Sollers's Flats, some eight miles below the city.

In 1662, Mr. Charles Gorsuch, a member of the society of Friends, took up and patented fifty acres of land on Whetstone Point. This was the first land patented within the present limits of the city. In 1663, Mr. Charles Mountenay took up two hundred acres on each side of Harford run, and called it Mountenay's neck. In 1663, Mr. John Howard patented the land lying between the heads of the middle and north branches of the Patapsco; and, in the same year, Thomas Cole received a patent for a tract of five hundred and fifty acres extending from Mountenay's neck across the north side of the river one mile; and northwardly from the river about half a mile. He called the tract Cole's Harbor. It was rhomboidal in form, and divided into nearly equal parts by the