

begun, and is attended with marked success. The grape grows to great perfection, and is entirely free from the blight, while the mildness of the winters will permit the cultivation in the open air, of many choice table grapes, which cannot endure the winters farther north. Strawberries, which are very prolific in the sandy soils, can be ripened for market *ten days* earlier than in the more northern counties, or on the Delaware coast.

Many farmers have flocks of sheep, which require but little attention, and suffice for all the woollen clothing, which is spun, woven and dyed in each family. The same is true of cotton and flax.

The trade in fish and oysters is extensive.

The climate is salubrious, the winters short and mild, and the proximity of the ocean ensures sea breezes which make the summers very agreeable.

Near Berlin, sands are found, which are identical with those in England from which the Bristol bricks are made.

The Pocomoke river, passing nearly midway through the county, and navigable as far as Snow Hill, affords good facilities for the transportation of the produce of the county to market. Much time cannot elapse before the extension of the Delaware railroad will afford it also the advantage of an unbroken steam communication with Philadelphia.

SOMERSET COUNTY.

Somerset county, which lies between Worcester county and the Chesapeake bay, is separated in part from Worcester county by the Pocomoke river. The Nanticoke river separates it from Dorchester county on the northwest, while the northern boundary is the State of Delaware, and the Southern and Western boundaries are completed by the Chesapeake.

Beside the two rivers which border it, it is watered by the Wicomico and Monie creeks, the Manokin, Annemesix and Little Annemesix rivers. The Wycomico and Monie creeks fall into Fishing bay through a common estuary. The Nanticoke falls into the upper head of Fishing bay, and the other rivers enter the Chesapeake direct. All these rivers are navigable more or less, and afford commercial facilities to their localities.

The upper or northern portion of the county has a soil of light sandy loam, with occasional glades of meadow and marsh. The middle of the county is a mixture of sand and