

ware State line to Chesapeake bay. Almost surrounded by navigable streams, and drained by the Chica-ma-comico, the Transquakin and Black water rivers, and Marshy Hope creek, it possesses unusual facilities for the transportation of its products.

The soil is variable, partaking of the same character which marks the entire Eastern Shore. Some of the land is stiff clay, some light and sandy, and some black loam.

The value of the lands depends entirely on the quality and location. Farms are most highly prized when located upon salt water. If highly improved, and beautifully located upon salt water, with fine fish, oysters, terrapins, crabs and wild fowl in their season, the price will average \$50 or \$60 per acre. Lands of equal merit, removed from the water, would not exceed \$15 per acre. Exhausted lands, located on salt water, would bring \$20 per acre; but if remote from water, will average \$5 per acre. Wood land, when thickly set with large white oak, suitable for ship building, bordering upon navigable water, would sell at \$100 per acre, while the same, remote from water, would not exceed \$15. An abundance of shell manure is obtained from the waters, and it has been found very effective in improving the lands.

The grazing is excellent. Wheat and corn are the principal grains cultivated; live stock is abundant; every farmer raises wool for his own use, and a considerable quantity for sale. Every variety of vegetable is cultivated; and of late, excellent crops of sorghum have been raised. A mill for grinding the sorghum has been established. The culture of peaches has increased much of late, and yielded very large profits.

In the upper part of the county water power is abundant, and is improved by grist and saw mills. The lower parts of the county are without water power, and substitute windmills for grinding their cereals.

There are muddy creeks, bogs, marshes and swamps, bordering upon the fresh water rivers; and all such locations are subject to malarious diseases.

The shad and herring fisheries in the lower part of the county are thriving. Nearly every river and creek furnish throughout the year an ample supply of fresh fish for home consumption.

Oak, hickory, pine and walnut, which are the natural timber, and abundant, are shipped as lumber, staves and wood to Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York.

The transportation of the products of Dorchester to the markets of our great cities by means of schooners, sloops and steamboats, can be increased ad infinitum.