

This line in default of astronomical observations has been used for defining the western boundary of the state. Still farther west, the map of Virginia has furnished the Geography of the country adjacent to the South Branch of the Potomac.

It has been thought important that in a territory—whose situation is like that of Maryland—embracing the great marine outlet of an immense district, as much of this adjoining district should be given in one view, as possible; and that the positions and relations of natural boundaries should be regarded; however much or widely separated by civil or municipal distinctions. Hence, besides the extreme verge of the Delaware Peninsula, is included also a part of the Susquehanna; and while the facilities for foreign communication and commercial enterprise are exhibited on the one hand, a glance on the other takes in the riches and resources, the growth and prospects of the inland country of the West. The object was to shew how completely it is in the power of Maryland to secure whatever benefits may be connected with so rich a carrying trade, as that which may be made—which must be made to exist between the positions. This has been as far as possible gained by a few additional square feet of canvas; while the hazard of making the map inconveniently large, was more than compensated, it was thought, in the advantage of having obtained this object.

The extent of the map having been determined upon, it remained to ascertain the most proper projection and the most convenient scale. Admitting the defects attributed to Flat maps, in which the meridians as well as the lines of latitude are strictly