

**THE NATURAL & INDUSTRIAL  
RESOURCES AND ADVANTAGES OF  
MARYLAND, BEING A COMPLETE  
DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTIES OF THE  
STATE AND THE CITY OF BALTIMORE**

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BEING  
A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION  
OF ALL  
THE COUNTIES OF THE STATE  
AND THE  
CITY OF BALTIMORE,

Together with an Accurate Statement of their Soil, Climate, Antiquities, Raw and Manufactured Products, Agricultural and Horticultural Products, Textile Fabrics, Alimentary Products, Manufacturing Industries, Minerals and Ores, Mines and Mining, Native Woods, Means of Transportation, Price of Land, Cheap Living, Ready Markets, Excellent Homes, and the Material and Social Advantages and Unequaled opportunities Maryland possesses for those seeking Homes, and for Capitalists who wish to invest in Industries that are sure to Pay big Dividends.

By J. <sup>ohn</sup> THOMAS SCHAEF, A. M., LL. D.,  
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AUTHOR "HISTORY OF MARYLAND," &c., &c.

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# MARYLAND'S

## Resources and Advantages

FOR

### TRADE AND POPULATION.

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Maryland people ought to be the most contented in the world. We have the best markets and the most accessible markets in the world. Commerce on land and sea is easy and rapid, and rates are low. We have the most diversified resources, the best variety of industries, and a gloriousness of opportunity that cannot be excelled. There is no place in the world where people can live better for less and live longer, if they take care of themselves. We have an unsurpassed equipment of churches, of schools, and of the advantages of intelligent development. Better yet, we have a people whose courtesy and whose real moral and mental worth, united with a hospitality that is proverbial, make Maryland's society an achievement in civilization.

We have been fortunate in every way. Our progress has never been forced. No epidemic of land booms has damaged our real estate. No wholesale incursion of nondescript elements has injured our population. The best part of our State's history is that which is to take place. The happiest and solidest era of our growth is that which is now beginning. The turbulence and extremes of some of the other

States are emphasizing Maryland's blessedness, and directing to it the hopes and desires of thousands of good people who want homes in a place of plenty.

We read of the cyclones and blizzards and droughts and grasshopper plagues, and kindred misfortunes which carry death and disaster to sections of the west. We read of the floods and epidemics and vendettas which cause desolation and suffering in the south. We read of the cold and the barrenness which make New England farm lands almost valueless, and we read of visitations which inflict other parts of the country, and add to the large stock of human want and unhappiness. But in Maryland we have a minimum of misfortune, and if we are not happy, it is our own fault.

Crops in Maryland in 1891, have been uniformly good, prices have ruled high, manufacturing establishments have enjoyed exceptional advantages, and merchants have been enabled to carry on a large volume of trade with profitable returns. The assessed value of property in Maryland increased \$32,604,697 during the year, and it has gone up from \$459,000,000 to \$510,000,000 since 1880. With this increase of tangible property has been a corresponding advancement in the productiveness of the State, as is shown by estimates and returns made from various sources. The oyster industry is doing well since the opening of the season, and indications point to a large catch. It is now conceded that the culling law is having a good effect upon the beds, and it is likely that oyster dredging and tonging may be kept up vigorously until the end of the season in April, and the estimates of the best observers put the year's catch at 11,000,000 bushels.

Fishing for the year has been uniformly good. The catch of shad was enormous, and that of herring little behind it, while rock, bass, blue fish and other varieties afforded the fisherman a busy and profitable season.



In agriculture results have been eminently satisfactory. The peach crop was unprecedentedly large, and, owing to the excessive quantity of fruit and the exactions of the transportation companies, the farmers not only made nothing, but in many instances lost money on the best and most plentiful peach crop of recent years. Other fruits yielded well and brought fair prices; produce from the truck farms has moved rapidly to market, and there has met an active demand; products for the canning factory were above the average in quantity, with the single exception of tomatoes, which were a short crop. The corn crop for the year may be estimated at 18,511,000 bushels, or nearly 2,000,000 bushels more than last year. About 5,838,000 bushels of wheat were harvested, nearly 500,000 less than the product of 1890.

Foreign trade from the port of Baltimore has been unusually active. For 1891, the imports were \$18,127,664 in value, and exports were \$79,217,082 in value—an increase of over \$11,000,000 in both branches of the trade. Exports were largely corn and wheat, while imports were all the various commodities which go to make up the importation from foreign countries to America. In 1891, the number of foreign sail vessel entering the port of Baltimore were 214, and 620 steam vessels.

In the iron trade, Maryland is also acquiring an important place. Several manufacturing plants are turning out high-class machinery, ships for merchant trade as well as the United States Navy, while the great plant at Sparrow's Point has grown perceptibly in every department during the past year.

The coal trade in Western Maryland has more than held its own. Total shipments from the Cumberland coal region in 1891, were 4,537,954 tons; an increase of 531,863 over that shipped the year before, and an increase of 2,261,918 tons shipped in 1881, or an increase of more than 100 per cent. during the past ten years. It is worthy of men-

tion that some 60,000 tons of this amount came to tide-water over the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.

Business at the Maryland quarries has been uniformly good throughout the year. Large contracts for building stone, blocks for bridges, and marble for various uses, have been placed in Maryland. The total product from the quarries is estimated at about 1,000,000 tons over that of 1890.

Maryland occupies an exceptional position among the States of the Union. Midway between the two great sections of the Atlantic Seaboard, the north and south, it partakes, to some extent, of the characteristics of each, so that immigrants from either section have no sense of strangeness or isolation in settling in any portion of the State. Maryland is not a small State. It is larger than any one of the New England States except Maine, it is five times the size of Delaware, considerably larger than New Jersey, and sizes up well with several of the Southern and Western States. The extreme length of the State from east to west is, 190 miles, and greatest breadth, about 120 miles. Its gross area is, 12,210 square miles. Its total land surface is, 9,860 square miles, and water surface, 2,350 square miles.

According to the census of 1890, the total population of the State was 1,042,390, an increase of 11.49 per cent., or 107,758 over the census of 1880. The last census also shows that we have in the State, 824,149 white persons, and 218,004 colored. Politically, Maryland has eight electoral votes, and is of equal importance as twenty-three other States, having an equal or greater number of electoral votes, while only twenty-one States have a larger representation.

In point of wealth and population, also, Maryland is by no means last or least. According to the census of 1890, the assessed value of real and personal estate was \$510,008,077, and the amount of tax levied was \$905,255.50, or 17½ cents on each \$100.00; 10½ cents of which was appropriated for the support of the public schools of the State.

The education statistics of the State, show that we have 2,236 schools, 3,967 teachers, 154,418 white pupils, 34,796 colored pupils, or a total of 189,214 pupils in the State. The county schools number 2,089, with 2,723 teachers, 95,548 white pupils, 27,908 colored pupils, or a total of 123,456 pupils in the State.

The Census Bureau for 1891, shows that the county indebtedness for the whole State was, in 1880, \$1,377,325.00, and in 1890 this debt had been reduced to \$898,776. In 1880 the per capita indebtedness was \$1.47, but in 1890, this was reduced to 86 cents, or nearly one half, which was one of the largest reductions of total and per capita indebtedness made by any State in the Union, during the last decade.

DEBT OF MARYLAND ON OCTOBER 1, 1891.

6 per cents.....	\$ 500,000 00
5 per cents.....	206,356 28
3.65 per cents.....	3,000,000 00
3 per cents .....	7,015,286 24

Total funded debt..... \$10,721,642 52

Offset—

Productive investments.....	\$3,126,470 00
Sinking fund investments in cash.....	3,719,125 64
	<u>6,845,595 64</u>
Net debt.....	\$3,876,046 88

The \$500,000, six per cents, in the above statement are the Treasury relief bonds of 1878, which were in the sinking fund on October 1st, 1891, cancelled, and which have since been destroyed. On the 6th of February, 1892, the financial officers of the State also destroyed \$1,242,300 of the 3 per cent. bonds held by the State in the sinking fund.