

was but a continuation of the river Susquehanna. Much of the products of the extensive country watered by this river are brought upon its periodical floods to the emporium of Maryland; but the difficulties presented by its rapids, obstruct a return of trade. Artificial courses have not yet been attempted to sufficient extent, and the state of Maryland, it is feared, is looking on with too much indifference, whilst her more industrious neighbors are cutting off, by turnpikes, canals, and rail-roads, the vast advantages which nature had so kindly directed into her bosom.

Tide water ascends the Susquehanna only a few miles above the mouth of the river, and terminates at Port Deposit, ten miles below the Maryland line. Here a succession of rapids commence, which continue to interrupt the ascending navigation for nearly fifty miles, to Columbia. The descent in that distance is estimated at one hundred and forty feet, and the navigation is practicable only during high freshets. Twenty miles above Columbia are the Conawago Falls, around which, a canal has been dug, one mile in length. From these Falls the ascending navigation improves and meets no serious obstacle for batteaux, up to the Otsego and Otego Lakes in New York.

The value of the descending trade of the Susquehanna in 1822, was estimated at one million, one hundred and sixty-eight thousand, nine hundred and fifty-four dollars.