

RESOURCES OF MARYLAND.

The State of Maryland has just effected one of those great, though peaceful, revolutions, which divide the world's history into epochs. On the 1st of November, 1864, more than eighty-five thousand persons, who were born, and had passed all their lives till that day as slaves, became free. The persons thus emancipated constituted a large portion of the agricultural labor of the State; and the Act of Emancipation, in addition to all minor changes, thus necessarily involved the great economical question of the system of labor, and all the important results dependent upon the labor of the State.

Nor, did this change stand alone. The same Constitution which made Maryland free, established also a system of free public instruction for all.

With the adoption of these radical changes in her institutions, at once the cause and the effect of the changes themselves, is manifest a new spirit and purpose and tendency among the people.

It was not of course to be expected that the work of a day could obliterate the attachments, the aversions, the habits of a century. At the same time, among those who most earnestly deprecated the changes that have occurred, and most zealously strove to prevent them, are found many who most cheerfully accept the change as a thing accomplished, and will give their best efforts to make the future prosperous and happy.

The feeling is wide spread that the state of society must undergo changes as great as the system of labor has undergone; and that, to a greater or less extent, its tone is to be modified—not to say controlled by the great producing class of the population. And the people of the State look therefore with most intense interest to the progress of events, and the developments which shall determine the direction of the restless tide of migration in our land. The time has gone past when the people of the State preferred that it should flow past them. They now earnestly desire that it should bring no stinted measure of its burden to their doors. In former times there was too much reason for the feeling, often expressed by immigrants, especially from the North, that