

begins to resemble England. The farm-houses are substantial, the fields often enclosed with thorn hedges, the wheat and sown grass a lively green. After traversing some extent of woodland country we reached Washington in the evening.

This city, which is the seat of government, has been laid out on a scale of magnificence, the first outline of which will not soon, if ever, be filled up. It is not a place where business is likely to centre, and the President has no court to attract the residence of the wealthy. Thus, except when Congress is in session, there are few people of consideration in the city, except the President and his ministers, the heads of departments, and foreign ambassadors. Standing on the dome of the capitol the fine broad streets are seen radiating in straight lines, but all terminating abruptly in the primeval forest. The capitol is a building of great magnificence, two wings of white marble having recently been added to it. The two branches of the national legislature occupy each wing, and ornament is very lavishly bestowed in the decoration of the interior of both. Each member has a desk in front of his seat, with his name affixed to it, the seats being drawn for by lot at the commencement of every new Congress. The Smithsonian Institute, the Observatory, and the Patent Office, are the three other public buildings in Washington most worthy of inspection.

The country between Washington and Baltimore is undulating and wooded, but the soil all the way is either a wet clay or sand,—a poor country for man or beast.

The city of Baltimore, with a population of 170,000, lies low* on a bay of the Chesapeake. The whole country here is indented with bays, which are both picturesque and conven-

* Baltimore is built on several hills. The business part only is along the river—most of the city being elevated.—AM. ED.