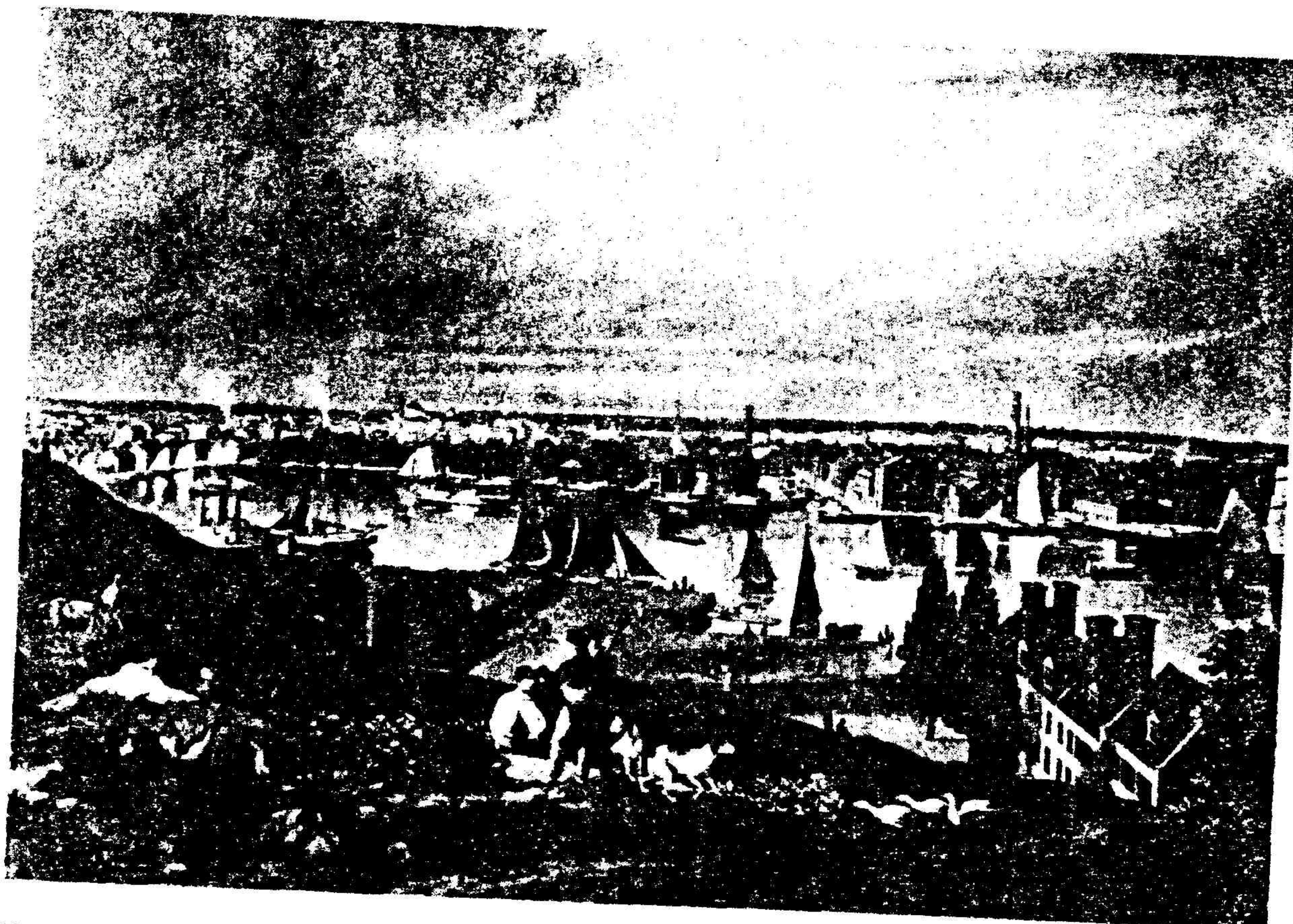




Baltimore harbor, c. 1830. *The Bettmann Archive*

John Barron's profitable wharf in Baltimore Harbor was being ruined because of excavation and street grading by the city of Baltimore. Barron and his partner felt the city should pay for the damage because the Fifth Amendment protected citizens from having their property taken away without just compensation. But the Supreme Court said the Bill of Rights did not apply to the states or local government. This chapter explains how the Court came to that conclusion, as well as the history of the framing of the Bill of Rights. It also explains important judicial powers such as judicial review and shows how Chief Justice John Marshall turned the Supreme Court from a weak tribunal into the ultimate arbiter of constitutional conflicts.

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