

was formerly quarried for the purpose of converting it into lime. There is also a kiln erected near the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road, at its intersection of the road leading to New Market, which is supplied from the Fredericktown valley, but there is reason to believe that stone sufficiently pure for agricultural purposes occurs in its immediate vicinity. But the direction from which the county has been so far most abundantly supplied is in Anne Arundel county from a narrow valley about 5 miles in length, running in a N. and S. course between Green's and Snell's bridges. At its N. extremity it branches off to the E. in the direction of Clarksville. The limestone of this formation is associated with primary rocks, being in some places so mixed with *mica* as to cause it to be easily quarried into slabs; it also contains a large intermixture of *quartz*. The lines of stratification run N. E. and S. W., and the ledges dip W. with an inclination to the E. at an angle of 40 to 50 degrees. The stone is principally quarried at the bottom of the valley, though it occasionally crops out on the sides of hills, that are low with a gently undulating surface. In one locality a mass of coarse *granite* breaks out at a higher elevation on the hill side, and in another a well defined *mica-slate* covers the bed of limestone, which is always much more mixed with mica in its upper strata, so as to render it unfit for calcination. On the other hand, the inferior strata are free from mica, and consequently yield a very good lime; and yet again the admixture of silex and mica is sometimes so great as to occasion the fusion of the rock, when the fire of the kiln has been too much urged, or prolonged beyond a proper time. The stone is delivered at the quarries for 1 dollar a perch; it is quarried and burnt for 50 cents, and the lime sells for 16 cents the bushel.

I take the liberty of mentioning the names of several farmers who are engaged in quarrying and burning this limestone—Messrs. John Hawlings, William Adams, Ignatius Waters, Nathau Haynes, Samuel Cecil, Penel Palmer, — Tyson, Mrs. Lee and Mr. Washington Gaither—to whom, as well as to others, I would suggest as advisable, that wherever there is a sufficiency of wood the kilns should be built upon the farms, and the stone carried to them, to avoid those accidents to which the lime is liable during transportation, and by which its qualities for agricultural purposes are greatly impaired. When it is only *air slacked*, as it is termed, it undergoes no injurious change, as it remains pulverulent, and is simply augmented in bulk; but if it becomes, accidentally, *water-slacked*, it is apt to run into hard lumps, that prevent it from being intimately incorporated with the soil, which is necessary for its quick and most successful action. Besides, some of the usual accidents of transportation are not likely to affect the stone, so as to occasion a total loss, which might be the case were the lime cart to become stalled during an unpropitious season. Those farmers who have no quarry of their own, and who possess facilities for burning lime, will probably find it more economical