

two intervals of a few days each, until the 6th of September last. In that time they took occasion to pass over every known remarkable spot in our state; particularly making it a point to visit every county and its chief town, and by especial inquiries among the inhabitants, to assure themselves that no place was overlooked, which, in such preliminary examinations, could or ought to have been attended to. These they were anxious should be known, in order that an opportunity might be afforded to persons interested—they hope under that title to include every citizen of Maryland—of ascertaining how far the parts passed over were capable of furnishing a correct general idea of the whole.

This general idea, the results of their examination—they beg leave now to present; premising that by a Geological investigation they conceive is meant, not only an inquiry into the *mineral* constitution of the different sections of the state, but a development of all its resources, in so far as these are dependent upon the occurrence within its territory of such substances belonging to the soil; as have already been, or are capable of being applied to useful purposes, in Agriculture, Manufactures, and the Arts; the collection likewise of facts relative to its Hydrology, by which they understand, besides an inquiry into the nature and properties of the *mineral* waters that occur within its limits, an examination of the peculiar circumstances under which the natural flow of its streams is determined, with a view, principally, to establish the amount of its *water power*, and, in a word, every point of information usually embraced under the head of the Physical Geography of a country.

Taking this view of the subject, they proceed to lay down the facts in the order in which they have presented themselves to their observation, adding