

microscopic shells, is the very best article known for giving superior polish to metallic surfaces. Large manufactories at the North do a thriving business in preparing polishing material for market from crude substances, which after all the labor and skill bestowed on them, are still inferior to this in its native state. The preparation and sale of this must sooner or later become a valuable business. The means for transportation which this county enjoys in addition to the Baltimore and Washington railroad, already mentioned, is by means of the Potomac tide-water navigation on its whole western border, and the Patuxent tide-water navigation on its eastern border from the northern part of Charles county to Hill's Landing, nearly opposite the county seat, Upper Marlbro'. The river this far up being navigable for steamboats and schooners, whilst flat boats, scows, &c., run up to Queen Anne, the head of tide-water, ten miles distant on the Patuxent. The Baltimore and Potomac railroad, and the Chesapeake and Potomac canal, already mentioned, will afford additional facilities to a large part of this county and greatly add to the value of its property.

#### THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

An institution well endowed by individual liberality, in addition to the patronage conferred on it by the State and General Government, is located in this county, about three miles distant from Bladensburg, eight from Washington and about one mile from the College Station, on the Baltimore and Washington railroad.

The main object of this institution is to teach the principles and practice of agriculture and husbandry in all of its branches.

With this end in view, an able board of trustees, composed in great part of gentlemen of the highest intellectual qualities and well versed in the art of agriculture, have procured a farm, where it is designed that all the operations that pertain to agriculture, in its broadest sense, shall be carried on in the most perfect form to serve as illustration of the principles taught in academic part of the institution. The natural sciences, particularly agricultural and analytic chemistry are taught and their adaptation to agricultural development made the object of special and particular instruction. Besides this the college course embraces English literature and a full course in the ancient and modern languages, all that is taught in the highest grade of American colleges, and a course of military tactics and science taught, and enforced by military discipline, similar to that law embraced in the Military Academy at West Point.