

THE LIME AND CEMENT PRODUCTS.

The limestone and marble deposits of Maryland have been extensively burned for building and agricultural purposes. In the earlier days the burning of lime was carried on largely over the state, but in later times, since transportation facilities have become so good, the old quarries and kilns scattered so widely over the country have been for the most part abandoned. There are still several large industries in the marble belt of the Piedmont area and in the semi-crystalline portion of the Frederick valley, and there are also many small local kilns for supplying lime for agricultural purposes, especially in the Frederick valley. Many of the largest companies now located in Maryland are deriving their supply from more favorably situated deposits outside the state.

The limestone and marble are also used as flux for blast furnaces. The coarse-grained marbles of Texas have furnished a large amount for this purpose, and also the limestone quarries at Cavetown on the Western Maryland Railroad. Hydraulic cement has been extensively manufactured from the limestone of the Lewistown (Niagara—L. Helderberg) formation of Silurian age at Cumberland and Hancock, as well as from the older Shenandoah limestone of the Hagerstown valley near Sharpsburg. The products from these industries have an excellent reputation and have been largely employed both within and without the state.

Another use to which the limestone of the state has been applied in recent years has been in the manufacture of asphalt blocks for street paving. These blocks are constructed of crushed and pulverized limestone, Trinidad asphalt and a residuum of petroleum heated separately and thoroughly mixed and then combined under heavy pressure. These blocks have been used extensively in Washington and Baltimore in recent years.

The total value of the lime and cement products of Maryland in 1896 was \$472,392.

THE CLAYS.

The clays of Maryland suitable for economic purposes are widely extended, occurring in a great number of different formations. They