

furnace at Canton. They employ very largely the carbonate iron ores which are obtained from the Arundel formation, mainly from Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties. These great lenses of carbonate ore have been worked since early colonial days, but an ample supply still remains. Two types of ore are found in these ore lenses known as the "white ore" or carbonate ore and the "brown ore" or hydrous oxide ore.

Ores of iron are found widely distributed in Maryland from the older crystalline rocks down to the more recent deposits, but the most extensive accumulations thus far discovered are the brown hematite and magnetite of Frederick county, the carbonate ore of Prince George's county, and the iron ores belonging to the coal measures of western Maryland. Under the present conditions of the iron industry the Maryland ores have not the value which they once had, although the excellent quality of the carbonate ores still makes it possible for them to compete with the cheaper materials of the west and south. This carbonate iron has been largely used by the U. S. government, it being guaranteed to stand 30,000 pounds to the square inch in the pig, many tests giving 40,000 pounds.

The great Maryland iron industries depend now to a very inconsiderable extent upon local iron ores. The discovery of extensive deposits in other sections of our country, particularly in Michigan, Minnesota and Alabama, coupled with the wonderful extension and cheapening of transportation, have resulted in the past few years in driving out the charcoal furnaces and thus leaving no place for the lean ores of Maryland.

The total value of pig iron produced from the Maryland carbonate ore during 1896 was \$115,000. The other ores were not worked during the past year.

#### THE COALS.

The coal deposits of Maryland are confined to western Allegany and Garrett counties, and are a part of the great Appalachian coal field which covers large portions of Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama. In the northeastern portion of this area the rocks containing the coal have been thrown into a