

**LEAD AND ZINC.**—Traces of galena and zinblende were early noted near the quarries at Jones' Falls in Baltimore county, but much more decided indications of these minerals occur in connection with the crystalline limestone in the western part of Carroll and the eastern part of Frederick counties, where attempts have been made to mine them in the region to the southwest of Union Bridge. In spite, however, of the frequent traces of both these minerals throughout central Maryland, it may be confidently asserted that neither will probably be found to occur in amounts that will repay mining.

**MANGANESE, ANTIMONY, MOLYBDENUM.**—The traces of these metals which have been detected in Maryland are even more insignificant than those of lead and zinc. Manganese was once mined a short distance west of Brookville in Montgomery county, but the deposit was not sufficiently extensive to be profitable. More recently manganese has been reported from Allegany county. Specimens of the sulphide of antimony have been obtained in the Middletown valley, but nothing is known of its occurrence or extent. The earliest discovery of molybdenite mentioned on this continent was made at the Jones' Falls gneiss quarries in 1811, but the deposit is not sufficient to be of economic value.

**SOAPSTONE.**—Soapstone is a compact variety of talc and in composition is a hydrous silicate of magnesium. It has been worked to some extent in Carroll, Harford and Montgomery counties, the most extensive deposits being found a short distance to the northwest of Marriottsville in Carroll county, where for a time the stone was sawed into slabs for the manufacture of bath tubs. In later years the product has been ground and sold to manufacturers of fire-proof and acid-proof paints, although some slabs are sawed out occasionally for fire-brick and hearthstones.

**ASBESTOS.**—The crystalline rocks of Maryland contain several deposits of asbestos, most of which, however, is not true asbestos, although it passes under that name, but is the fibrous variety of serpentine known as chrysotile. These deposits are in both quality and quantity of production inferior and unimportant. In 1880 one mine in Harford county and three in Baltimore county produced a total