

toward their development hitherto. It is the intention of the State Geological Survey to give this subject much attention, applying various tests to these widely distributed products, so that the people of the state may know their true value. There is little doubt but that new deposits will be discovered, while other uses will be detected in addition to those which are known to-day.

CLAYS.—There is perhaps no economic product which more largely abounds in Maryland than clay, the importance of which has never been fully appreciated hitherto. Millions of dollars are invested in the clay industry in some of the states to the north of us, and there is no reason to believe that their clays are in any way superior to ours. The clays of Maryland are adapted to brick-making and pottery; and some are admirable fire clays. The investigation of the properties of the clays has been hitherto very largely left to those who are employed in the clay industry, and yet there is perhaps no product which is more worthy of exhaustive scientific treatment. The clays of Maryland occur chiefly throughout the southern and eastern portions of the state and are found at several different geological horizons; and others of acknowledged superiority are known in the older formations of the western counties. Already there are between one and two hundred plants in operation within the limits of the state; but there is undoubtedly an opportunity for far greater expansion, not only on the part of those already engaged in the business, but on the part of those who are willing to establish new industries. The State Geological Survey has in view a thorough study of the clays of Maryland in the near future.

SANDS.—Large deposits of sand, both in unconsolidated form and cemented into sandstone, are found both in the eastern and western portions of the state. Particularly in eastern and southern Maryland, beds of great thickness and wide areal extent are known. At a few points work has already been done upon these materials and there is already some market for the products. These various sand deposits are useful for building and molding and also for glass-making. Their development has only commenced, and it is the intention of the State Geological Survey to look into their properties, and to indicate their quality, quantity and distribution.