

tionary War there were seventeen or eighteen forges in operation in Maryland in addition to the furnaces and other iron works. These furnaces and forges were built mostly on the tributaries of Chesapeake Bay. They were all of the same type, using charcoal for fuel with cold blast and applying the power of the blow cylinder by water wheels. Some of these furnaces, especially the Catoctin furnace, furnished guns and projectiles for the Continental army.

During these years attempts were also made to discover and develop other mineral products. In a letter from Philemon Lloyd to Lord Baltimore and co-partners in 1722 the writer speaks of the discovery of copper ore and other minerals. A report made by the Governor and Council to the Board of Trade of London in 1748 states among other things that "there are in the Province great shews of copper in many places, but of the several attempts that have been made to discover veins of that metal none has yet been made that quitted cost." It was probably shortly after this that a party of English miners opened the Liberty and Mineral Hill mines. They built a small smelting furnace on the Deer Park tract of land near the latter mine where they smelted the ores, and must have produced considerable quantity of copper, as shown by the large amount of rich slags and residue left at the furnace, which nearly a century later were hauled to Baltimore and profitably reworked. Operations at these mines ceased for a time with the opening of the Revolution.

In various letters to Lord Baltimore during the period above described, references are made to the natural resources of the state and accounts are given of the different types of rock, of the condition of the soils, and of the general character of the country, based particularly on more extended explorations of the central and western portions of the colony. Before the opening of the Revolution there was already a wide acquaintance with the broader features of the physiography and mineral products of Maryland.

The determination of the boundary line between Maryland and Pennsylvania was the object of one of the most famous surveys made in this country and one which added much to the existing knowledge regarding the physical features of the state. After numerous controversies a deed was finally executed between the heirs of Wm. Penn