

Carroll county contains many prime quarries of limestones, both for agricultural and building purposes.

The principal limestones in the upper part of Carroll co., are the following :

No. 1. A white Limestone of fine crystalline texture.—Haines, Uniontown, Md.

No. 2. A dark gray variety, slatish and with crystals of Calcspar imbedded. Rhinehart, Carroll county.

No. 3. A dark gray and homogeneous mass, of fine crystalline texture and small white veins of Calcspar traversing.—Torrey's, Adams county, Pa.

They were found to be composed as follows :

	No 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
Carbonate of Lime,	99.5	68.3	98.8
Carbonate of Magnesia,		11.5	0.5
Sand, Slate, &c.,	0.5	20.2	0.7

100.

And will, therefore, when burnt, produce, of—

Caustic Lime,	56.0	38.3	55.
Caustic Magnesia,		5.5	0.2
and, when water-slacked, of—			
Water-slacked Lime,	73.7	50.6	73.1
Water-slacked Magnesia,		8.0	0.3

There yet remained for this Report a description of Baltimore county and the tide-water part of Harford, and the analyses of Soils, Limestones and other minerals of *public* interest, the analyses all having been made and the notes of the description of the various sections of this part of the State taken from observation on the spot, but not written out in a form fit for the press. This could have been done in a few days, and would have been done by the present time but for the sickness of the writer, and at as early a period as your predecessors have received the report. The printer of my Report showed me on yesterday, Feb. 22d, a note from the printer to your Honorable Body, of which the following is a copy :

FEB. 21, 1853.

SHERWOOD & Co.

Gentlemen :—If Dr. Higgins does not furnish you with the balance of the copy of his Report by 5 o'clock, P. M., on Tuesday next, the 23d inst., I order that the work be closed and put in the binder's hands immediately thereafter.

Respectfully,

THOS. J. WILSON.

From this imperious note there was no appeal, which I much regret. There were several subjects to which I wished to call the attention of your Honorable Body and the people of the State. One I will mention. Let the State Chemist (if that office be continued) have the selection of his own printer, and give him proper means to carry on his work. Then the Reports can be laid on your desks in the early part of the session.

In the SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT to be made to His Excellency the Governor, before the expiration of my term of office, the two counties of Baltimore and Harford will be exclusively attended to.

The law gives the Governor the power of printing the same, and it can be franked to all of the people of these counties. This Report will be much more complete and full, than if the same subjects had been included here ; as there will be time for careful examination and correction of all errors, which was not allowed for the present one.

I much regret to make so abrupt a conclusion to this my last Report to your honorable body, from whom I have received nothing but marks of high consideration and kindness. To you and those whom you represent, with many of whom I have been on terms of affectionate intimacy for many years, I tender my sincere wishes for peace, prosperity and happiness.

They are well remembered, and this is my sincere thought for them.

JAMES HIGGINS.