

the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, fifty-three miles from Baltimore, excellent roofing slate is worked which will be better still when worked to a greater depth.

Along the sides of the Catoctin mountain from Frederick to Emmittsburg, iron ore abounds. It is remarkably pure, and is of the kind called brown hematite. Although the beds of this ore have been worked for eighty years, the supply is so ample, that it seems comparatively inexhaustible.

From Woodsboro' to the Potomac is a range of limestone unusually pure, formerly used in the manufacture of chloride of lime. It varies in color from blue to dove color; takes a beautiful polish, and is similar to the famed Italian marbles of that color. The blue shades are of vegetable origin, and therefore permanent. At the foot of Catoctin mountain there is a bed of similar limestone, and also one resembling verde antique. Three miles west of Frederick is a marble variegated with light and dark shades of red. Another marble, widely known from its having been used for columns in the old hall of the House of Representatives of the capitol at Washington, is found in large deposits on the west side of the Monocacy Valley. In its character it is something between a conglomerate and a breccia. It has been much admired, but the difficulties of dressing have prevented its more frequent and general use. Some of these marbles have a very dark color and are required for black marbles. The major part of them are free from impurities, of a fine grain, and take a polish without difficulty. Limestone, in suitable condition to burn for lime, is abundant in all parts of the county.

Weverton, situated at the extreme southwestern corner of the county, and contiguous to Washington county, three miles from Harper's Ferry, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, has a water power estimated by Engineer Hughes, sufficient to drive 333 water wheels. It is already improved by a dam across the Potomac, built by a company who purchased the water power in 1846 for \$100,000, made these improvements, became involved, ceased operations, and the property is now again in the market. Northern capitalists have heretofore refused to purchase because Maryland was a slave State. The fall of water at this dam is 10 feet. Between this water power and Harper's Ferry there is another water power of 15 feet fall, which is unimproved. The country is capable of furnishing all produce which might be needed by extensive markets, and the price of coal for fuel is very low. A railroad has been projected, and the route surveyed, to connect this point with Hagerstown; the Baltimore and Ohio Road traversing the southern portion of the county (with a branch diverging to Frederick city) connects it with Baltimore; while the West-