

a spoke, a hub, an axe or broom handle or even a washboard manufactured for sale in the county.

The brooks which intersect the glades abound in the finest trout, affording excellent sport, and a pleasant variety of food. Some years since perch were introduced in the rivers, and they are now fully stocked.

The local roads of the county, (coal roads,) are in fine order, and are used not only for the convenience of neighborhoods, but for general freight throughout the county.

The water power of this county is immense, but unimproved. Fuel is so cheap that steam power is preferred.

Limestone, and red and white sandstones of excellent quality for building purposes, are plentiful. The paving stone of this county is superior to any yet used in New York, but owing to cost of transportation has only been tried in Cumberland.

The supply of cement limestone seems inexhaustible, and as the water cement made from it has been every where pronounced the finest known, capital and enterprise alone are needed to extend its manufacture. It is now ground by a steam mill at Cumberland.

Fire bricks are manufactured at the Mount Savage works, in immense quantities, but not enough to supply the demand. The fire clay from which they are made, is of superior quality and unlimited amount.

The iron ores of Allegany are of several varieties, and are intermingled in the strata of the coal fields. It is in a strata 200 feet below the main coal that the "*black band*" of iron ore is found. This ore, so much prized in England, here rests on a strata of coal which is thick enough to roast it, thereby lessening the expense of reducing it to a merchantable form. None of the smelted iron is sent abroad, but is manufactured into railroad iron on the spot, to an amount on an average of 200 tons per week. That singular formation of carbonate of iron called *balls* or nodules by the miners, is found and mined here. It is located in beds of shale or fire clay. These ores are worked in the valleys of the Cumberland coal fields. The western part of the county being little known or improved, though specimens of rich ores have been obtained in the un-opened coal fields.

The coal mines of Allegany county deserve a much fuller notice than can be given of them here, both from their benefit to the nation at large, and the important part they bear in the "Resources of Maryland."

The capital invested in mines in this county is not less \$7,000,000. The extent of railroad builded and owned by