

APPENDIX.

MINERAL RESOURCES OF MARYLAND.

Such of the preceding chapters as are descriptive of the geology and the mineral matters of the State, have reference exclusively to their direct application to agricultural pursuits.

We have now to consider other mineral resources, which, if less directly related to agriculture, constitute important adjuncts by furnishing materials for industrial operations, which add to the amount of our productive industry, and consequently to the wealth of the State.

There are probably few persons aware of the extent and variety of the mineral resources of Maryland, and it surprises those who have examined into the matter, to find many of them so much neglected.

Citizens throughout the counties certainly expect my aid in this matter, if I am to judge by their numerous inquiries about substances existing, or supposed to exist on their lands.

My attention is often called to such matters while executing the field work of my duties; samples are brought to me, and many inquiries are made in person and by letter. I have taken great pleasure in giving the necessary information in such cases so far as my long experience in these matters has enabled me to do.

Replies have been made to all inquiries except those recently received, and which will be attended to as early as possible. The preparation of the report and maps, have wholly occupied my time for more than two months past.

In order to aid in disseminating information upon these subjects, I propose to give a very brief account of those mineral substances of our State at present known, which possess an industrial value, and which have not been described in the preceding chapters.

I. MARBLE.

Every kind of limestone which admits of being smoothly dressed or polished, is called *marble*.

The limestones suited for producing lime, having been already described, I shall in this place notice only those applicable to architectural and other uses.

We have in Maryland a much greater variety of marbles than is usually supposed, but many of them have not yet been sufficiently explored, and with the exception of the white marbles of Baltimore county, little effort has been made to bring them to the notice of those likely to develop and give them a productive value.

The marbles of Baltimore county constitute part of the metamorphic limestone (No. 11) on the map. Those used for marble may be divided into three varieties.

The first is the fine grained white, or nearly white marble, such as that used in the construction of the Washington monument and for buildings, and other architectural uses in Baltimore.

The best of this kind is in the vicinity of Texas and Cockeysville, lying in nearly horizontal strata, and which can be taken out in large solid masses by the use of what are termed *feathers and wedges* by the operators.