ciently so to render the State independent of the world in this essential element of our agricultural prosperity.

Is it not worth the attempt?

Fresh Water Marl.

This material occurs in numerous places in Washington county, and deserves the attention of farmers in their vicinity.

I had only an opportunity to examine one of those deposits, which is near St. James' College, six miles southward from Hagerstown. It has evidently been the bed of an ancient pond or lake, supplied with water from the limestone spring at the college, which discharges *not less* than 10 or 15 barrels of water per minute, saturated with carbonate of lime.

The barrier at the south end of the pond was gradually worn down, leaving a stream along its length of, perhaps, two miles, which exposes the marl to the depth of from 5 to 7 feet. Its color, when dry, is of a light gray, similar to that of wood ashes; and it abounds with shells, of which I found several species.

Its composition is as follows:

Lime - - - - - - -	52.55
Sand clay and oxide of iron -	6.16
Carbonic acid - - - - -	41.29
Phosphoric acid - - -	Trace.

It appears to be principally composed of carbonate of lime, including a large proportion of fresh water shells, and doubtless contains a proportion of phosphoric acid that must enhance its value as a manure. Whilst *useless* attempts had been made to raise crops upon it, I regretted that I could hear of no cases in which it had been applied to its proper use as a manure.

This, with other deposits of a similar character, is deserving of the careful investigation which I propose to make of them. In the meantime I hope that some of the good farmers in the vicinity of such deposits will make fair trials of this kind of marl, which can be so cheaply procured, and is likely to answer so good a purpose. It should be applied at the rate of 200 or 300 bushels to the acre, in the mode recommended for shell marl.