

*Caroline county.*—At the head of the navigation of the north-west fork of the Nanticoke, at Federalsburg, there is a deposit of marl which lies high, and in a very accessible position; it owes its formation to an accumulation of fossil oysters, and other small marine shell-fish, some of them extremely delicate, giving evidence by the integrity of their parts that they have originated and died where their testaceous coverings are now discovered, and appear to have been subsequently enveloped in a deposit of clay. The material of this deposit may emphatically be called *shell marl*: the enveloping clay contains from fifteen to twenty per cent. of calcareous matter, and the chief constituent of the fossils is the same fertilizing agent. The soil of the surrounding country is principally a light sandy loam; so that the marl which has just been described consisting principally of carbonate of lime, and aluminous particles, is no doubt admirably fitted to impart to it the physical and chemical properties requisite to constitute a good soil.

At Greensborough, the marl forms the substratum of the soil upon which the village is built. It breaks out on the west bank of the river, a few feet above tide. At low tide, it becomes very accessible, and from the nature of its constituents, as exhibited in the appended table, showing the result of the chemical analyses of the marls from the several localities in Caroline county, and the condition of the superincumbent soil, it will be perceived, that it must furnish a material of great value for the improvement of the latter. Reference must be made for the analysis of this marl, to No. 1. of the table.

At Denton, or rather in its vicinity, several localities of marl were discovered, principally on the head streams of Watt's branch. They are generally, of excellent quality, and well adapted to use on the spots and in the vicinity of where they occur. See Nos. 2 and 3 of the table.

Three miles below Denton, on the east side of the Choptank, there occurs a considerable deposit of fossil oysters, forming the mass of the banks of the river, from fifteen to twenty feet above tide. The neighboring country would derive great advantage from the general use of this material, and every consideration of individual interest and public usefulness, was accordingly presented to the proprietor of these valuable banks to induce him to employ their contents on his own lands, or dispose of a portion of them to neighbors willing to purchase. It is to be believed, that an intelligent citizen cannot long resist any