

siding in the central part of the Union, immediately on Mason and Dixon's line, they have all of the virtues, with none of the vices, which belong to the two great sections of our Union. They possess the thrift, industry and economy of the North, without its parsimony,—the generosity and chivalry of the South, with none of its extravagance and recklessness. Living where the land and the waters meet, their minds have all the firmness of the former, their hearts all the freedom of the latter.

Though to some, the above short description may seem highly colored, all who have had the same opportunities for knowledge as I have had, will bear testimony to its correctness.

I do not conceive it necessary to go into a minute description of the topography of the several counties. The residents know it already, and to others it would possess no interest, and be of no benefit. I shall only speak of the particular deficiencies of each soil, show from what source these deficiencies are to be supplied, and give the compositions of *some* of the different marls. I shall only publish a few of the many analyses of soils made, as they would possess no particular interest beyond their immediate locality, and there I have already given all the requisite information. All of the analyses made by me would occupy a large space, and the great majority of farmers would derive but little benefit from reading them. I conceive my duty rather to lie in the application of the aids of science to agriculture, than in teaching that science; and to do the latter in a report of this kind, would be foreign to its object. As the sick man needs not to know the exact mode in which the medicines administered for his relief act, but is satisfied with his recovery, so for those seeking to improve their lands, it is only necessary to know what will most certainly and cheaply accomplish their objects. This I shall show, without going into elaborate reasoning as to the theory of the action of their manures. The law seemed to indicate, that instruction on this point was to be given during my sojourn in the different counties, by means of lectures, by conversations, and, when required, by means of written communications. This is deemed, (and as far as my experience goes,) with great wisdom, the means best adapted to diffuse scientific agricultural information in the community. Notice was given in all the public papers of my presence in the respective counties, and of the time and place of delivering public lectures. Free opportunity was thus offered to all, of reaping whatever benefits could be derived from this office.

Having spoken of the components of soils in general, and of manures, I come now to describe several general varieties which exist in the section of the State where my duties have been performed. Although different parts of the same field present differences, yet on another and adjacent field, the same kind of soils will be found. The varieties of soil, which I shall particularly describe, are those which are met with in greater or less abundance, in all the counties on the Eastern Shore.