

ductive in the country. On the Patuxent River, in St. Mary's and Charles counties, and on the Wicomico River, there are soils differing somewhat from any that I have described, yet of great productive capacity. There are also many *sub-varieties* of soils which I have examined, and whose deficiencies have been made known by other means pointed out by the law, by lectures, conversations or *written statements*. This latter mode, *not included in the law*, I have been called on to follow to such an extent as would almost deprive me of all time for other duties.

The law as it stands seems to intend that *particular* descriptions of the soils of each county should be given to the county commissioners, and not included in a general report. I have ever been ready to discharge this part of my duty.

I do not think that it would be in place to include minute particulars in a general report, unless these minutiae were of general application.

MARLS OF THE THIRD GUBERNATORIAL DISTRICT.

There is a great quantity of marl in the tide water counties of this district, but generally they do not possess the value of those found in the First District on the Eastern Shore. It extends, as a substratum, nearly all through them at a greater or less depth, and is found cropping out at the sides of hills, in ravines, and on the banks of rivers.

I have examined very many specimens of it that will not repay the cost of its application, some that are very fine, and I am aware that many specimens have not been submitted for examination, some of which are no doubt valuable. In all cases where I have not given to owners written statements of the analysis of their marls, it has been because their application would not have been profitable.

It would have been very pleasant for me to pronounce every specimen "first rate," could I have done so as the interpreter of chemical analysis; this I could not do, however, and their real worth was given. Men had better have an unpleasant truth told to them than be buoyed up by false hopes, and deluded by anticipations that can never be realized. The following are very good marls:

Marl from near Woodville, P. G. County. Hon. J. D. Bowling.

Silica,	.	.	.	.	.	52.00
Iron and Alumina,	.	.	.	.	.	1 80
Lime and Carbonate,	.	.	.	.	.	43.70
Lime as phosphate, (bone earth,)	.	.	.	.	.	1.50