

improving them, their natural resources for agricultural improvement, their industrial resources and such other matters as may have any relation to their development and improvement.

FREDERICK COUNTY.

I feel it due to myself to state that when I first went to the examination of this county, I caused the fact to be announced in all the papers published in it, and moreover stated my readiness and willingness to attend to any request from its farmers who might need my services for special examinations, and informed them where I could be found and where specimens of lime-stones or soils should be sent for analysis. I moreover caused to be published in all the papers proper directions for taking samples of soil. Every specimen of soil that was sent to me, save from two persons, has been examined and the Reports sent to their owners; these two I shall examine and report on at some future time. They were not done heretofore for reasons which will be satisfactory to those who sent them. During my protracted residence in this county, many examinations have been made of all the different varieties of its soils and of all the varieties of its limestone. Lectures were delivered in the county in such number and places as I was told were best calculated to insure good audiences. The attendance at these showed the interest which was manifested in my labors. The meetings were much larger than any political gatherings of either side, save the "mass meetings," though these latter were made by the active exertions of political parties in times of high political excitement. The approbation manifested was such as to satisfy one of much greater vanity than myself. Let the advice which I hereafter give be followed by the farmers of this county, and they will admit that they have received an hundred fold for all the expenses which they may have incurred. I make this statement only in self-defence. Let none complain but those who, having sought, have been refused my services, and I shall be scatheless.

Whether we regard the number of the population, the richness and value of the sources for improving the soil, the fertility of the soil itself, or the quantity of its agricultural productions, this county must be regarded as the empire county of the State

It is bounded by the Pennsylvania line on the north, the Potomac River on the south, by Washington county on the west, and by the counties of Carroll and Montgomery on the east. It is divided into three natural geographical divisions. First, and most westerly, that part embraced between the Catoctin and South Mountains, which includes the Middletown Valley on the south, and Harbaugh's Valley on the north. Secondly, that