

I have not had the same facilities for investigating this mine which I enjoyed at the Dolohyde, but from all the information I have been able to collect I am of opinion that the question of the value of the mine has not been ascertained by former workings. We may hope, however, that the mining will be hereafter resumed, with the advantage of more knowledge of such formations than existed nearly half a century ago.

Another mine was opened near New London, four miles southward from Liberty, which, after having been worked for a time, was suspended. At the period of my last visit to that region, (fifteen months since,) preparations were in progress for again working this mine, but I am not informed of the result.

There are numerous places within the Linganore copper region which invite the attention of those disposed to engage in business of this kind.

Considering the risks of failure in mining it may be remarked, that it is not prudent for one or a few to venture the expenditure of the large sum generally required for developing a mine. The British system, which they have been taught by experience, is for many persons to venture each small sums in a number of different mines, but no mining should be attempted without ample capital.

If this plan were carried out efficiently in our Maryland metaliferous districts we might expect the development of many valuable mines of copper and other metals.

Lead Ore in Frederick county.

Galena or sulphuret of lead was discovered some years ago at Unionville, about three miles east by south from Liberty. For want of excavations I was unable to form an opinion of its value or quantity.

This kind of ore was also obtained out of the Dolohyde. It contains silver in such proportion as would make its separation remunerating, if the ore could be procured in sufficient quantity.

Another metalliferous range embraces the Catoctin and South mountains and the intervening portion of Frederick county. The southern portion contains the fertile Middletown valley, whilst in the northern part the space between these two ridges consists mainly of hills nearly as high as the ridges themselves.

This region is highly interesting in a scientific, as well as in an industrial point of view, and is entitled to a minute geological investigation, but owing to its rough character, and being mostly covered with forests, this will be a laborious work, requiring much time and proper assistance.

Since my former report was presented, I have partially explored it and constructed geological sections across on three lines, besides partial sections into several gaps of the Catoctin. One of these extends from Mechanicstown via Wolf's tavern, to Cavetown, in Washington county, and exhibits the following rocks :