

“Besides these shells which are the most prominent in the strata alluded to, there are numerous varieties of other marine shells.

“At the foot of the bank, and perhaps under the deposit of shells, (although the latter circumstance has not been satisfactorily ascertained,) it would seem that there is a formation of iron-stone of the nature of a bog ore, and exhibiting numerous impressions of pectens (scallop) and other shells.

“Shell-marl deposits also occur in the immediate neighborhood of Easton. They are generally found at the head of the branches making up from the Third-haven creek. In one locality, the deposit, which is almost exclusively composed of oyster-shells, is covered by a bed of gravel, four or five feet in depth.

“At a short distance from this, there is another deposit which consists of broken scallop and oyster-shells. This deposit is undulated in its superior surface, and lies about seven feet beneath the soil, which is sandy,” &c. &c.

These notes, it will be perceived, refer principally to spots which have been visited by the undersigned. And although, from transient observation, they had been at first led to assign the commencement of the shell-deposits to the Sassafra river, they have since been induced to think, that they occur on Bohemia river. At Oxford, on the Third-haven, these deposits are known to be extensive. There is also good authority for stating, that in Caroline county shell marl is found and has been used. On the south bank of the Choptank river, at Cambridge, in the digging of wells, thick beds of shells have been penetrated; but these lie commonly from all accounts very deep. It may be proper too, to re-