

brittle nature, has nevertheless a great range of application.

The ore is extensively worked at the Naseongo furnace, in Worcester county. On Barren creek, in Somerset county, it occurs in great abundance, and, as it has been found to be advantageously used with other ores of iron, it is thence sent to Baltimore and other places to be thus employed. The Barren creek springs, which yield chalybeate waters are said to have been at one time much frequented. They are now quite neglected; but a careful inquiry into all the advantages which they may possess, might possibly lead to the foundation of some establishments that would diffuse benefits over a considerable vicinage.

The great agricultural resources, which the beds of shell-marl supply to the Eastern Shore of Maryland, are in a considerable degree possessed by the lower counties on the Western Shore of the Chesapeake, and on the Potomac river. The fossiliferous deposits available in this way, for this section of country, occur principally at Indian Point, in Prince Georges county, at Maryland Point, in Charles county, and on the Saint Mary river, in Saint Mary's county. There is also a deposit of fossil oyster shells at Hog Point, on the Patuxent; and the cliffs, between Drum Point and Cove Point, in Calvert county, present a vertical section of about seventy feet, consisting in the descending order: 1st. Gravel and sand, fifty feet in depth: 2d. A bed of marine shells, in the upper portion of which the shells are firmly bound together by a ferruginous cement, and in the lower portion are imbedded in a blue clay: this bed measures upwards of ten feet. 3d. A tough blue clay, rising ten feet above the level of the bay.