

abundant formations of two varieties of iron ore, which, as they are but seldom used for the extraction of the metal, may be properly mentioned here. These two varieties of iron ore, are the ochrey red oxide of iron (red ochre) and the ochrey brown oxide of iron, (yellow ochre.)

The estimate of the value of red and yellow ochres produced at Baltimore and exported, exceeds two thousand dollars a year. By the production of these articles within our own limits, their importation has been entirely excluded; and the domestic articles are now furnished at one half of their former prices.

But a still more valuable constituent of the Tertiary formation of Maryland is the deposite of those ores of iron which are used for the extraction of the metal. Notice has already been taken of the bog-ore of the Eastern Shore. The same variety is found on the Western Shore, as in the neighborhood of Queen Anne, in Prince George's county, &c.

Those kinds of iron ore, which are the most valuable are described in systematic works under two specific heads; namely, carbonate of iron and brown oxide of iron. The varieties, included under these two heads, occur throughout a broad belt of country comprising the upper limits of the tertiary formation, where it is associated with a coarse gravel, ferruginous sand, transported boulders and blocks—constituting what in some systems of geology is termed the Erratic block groupe, and which with us is found to rest immediately upon the primitive or primary rocks. These ores of iron (usually but improperly classed among the argillaceous oxide of iron, that belong to another epoch) are found occurring in nodules of an oval or spherical form, sometimes kidney-shaped, and composed of concentric layers. The nodules fre-