

Besides all of these, however, which have just been briefly described as belonging more immediately to the Tertiary formation; there is found in its upper limits among the erratic material with which it is associated and occurring very often in very large masses, another variety described mineralogically as Hematitic brown oxide of iron. The forged iron from this ore is commonly found to be hard, very malleable, and has been used to furnish steel. It was formerly worked at the furnace known as Ridgely's furnace on the Falls of the Great Gunpowder.

The whole amount of iron produced annually in the state of Maryland has been estimated at 5800 tons—valued at about \$100,000; and it is thought that one half at least of this quantity is derived from the sources which have so far been enumerated.

From all these considerations the undersigned are of opinion, that further researches into the mineral constitution of the portion of our state which they have so far passed in review, cannot fail to bring to light new sources of wealth, as well as to extend the operation of those that are already known; whilst they remain persuaded that where so many important interests are subserved, great and lasting benefits must accrue to the community at large.

The undersigned will now proceed to state the results of their observations on other parts of the state.

The second great division of Maryland, which may be made for the sake of convenience in its Geological examination, will embrace that portion of territory lying between the line already defined, (page 19) as limiting the upper part of the Tertiary formation, and another drawn through the state from