

name of Murphy's bed—is situated on the eastern side of George's creek and northwestern slope of Dan's mountain; its elevation above the Potomac is one hundred feet; the thickness of the bed is three feet, and it is overlaid by sandstone. The second deposit, also at Westernport—called Paris's bed—is on the western side of the creek and eastern slope of Savage Mountain, its elevation above the river is one hundred and thirty feet: the thickness of the bed five feet, and this is covered by shale and slate.

The third and most extensive deposit is that at Braut's mine. There are in this place five distinct beds: the lowest corresponding it is thought with Murphy's bed; it is covered by sandstone: the second which is thirty feet higher, is covered by shale; it probably corresponds with Paris's: the depth and elevation of the fourth bed could not be ascertained: and the fifth bed which is at an elevation of nine hundred feet above the river, is fifteen feet thick. This important deposit is on the Virginia side of the Potomac, and forms the north slope of what is termed the New-creek Ridge. The precipitous nature of the mountain slope allows the discharge of the coal, by means of a slide, from each successive stratum into the very bed of the river below.

A very satisfactory account of the coal mines in the immediate vicinity of Frostburg is furnished in the collection of Reports and Letters of the Engineers of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company from which the extract above, referring to the extent of this deposit, was also taken.

“In the hills and valley, three distinct veins of rich bituminous coal is frequently opened. The first or lowest is near the base of the hills and is from two