

certain the existence of *limestones* in some of the upper and central portions of Harford county, and of the great importance of the subject to that section of country, it was deemed advisable, at the solicitation of some gentlemen interested in the inquiry, to make a short excursion into that quarter early in the course of last season, and previous to the commencement of the regular campaign. Much anxiety had been felt, and labor, time, as well as money already expended, in fruitless researches, and in the extraction of materials supposed to be limestone. A desire to allay any further anxiety, and to prevent unprofitable expenditures, prompted the step just mentioned to have been taken. Greater regret would be experienced at the unfavorable result of this examination, so far as relates to the discovery of good limestone, were it not that some service has been rendered by putting a stop to further operations that must have inevitably ended in severe disappointments. It must be understood, at the same time, that the examination was confined to those spots where operations had already been commenced, and that no researches were undertaken beyond them; for the obvious reason, that the provisions of the bill expressly enjoined it as a duty upon the Geologist, to begin his researches with the southern portions of the State. That good limestones occur in many parts of Harford not yet explored there can be no doubt.

To indicate these will form a part of future duties: Several specimens have already been forwarded for examination, presumed to be from new localities, in Long Green, which on analysis were found to contain a large proportion of lime with very little admixture of any foreign ingredient calculated to impair the value. These and other specimens have been deposited in the State cabinet.

A series of iron-ores from Harford county, is likewise deposited in the same place, which will be completed when the geological survey of that county shall have been effected. It will then become necessary to append to any report that may be made of such survey, a tabular view of the chemical constituents of the different kinds, of limestones, iron-ores, &c. similar to that annexed to the present report exhibiting the same con-