

ular limestone, which were shown as occurring in the same vicinity, belong to some continuous formation of this rock, there is very little doubt, that at its junction with the serpentine, a quarry of the highly prized and very ornamental marble just named might be opened with success. But the only mineral production of the Catoctin mountains, that has so far been put to any profitable use, is the iron ore, which may be said to occur along the whole length of the mountain range towards the foot of the eastern slope. By its mineralogical character, it is referable to the variety Hematitic brown oxide of iron. On Hunting-creek, at the Catoctin Furnace, where it is extensively worked, it is associated with Phosphate of Iron, yet it yields a metal exceedingly well adapted to the casting of hollow ware, to which use it is principally applied by the intelligent proprietor of that extensive establishment. A similar ore is found, and was formerly abundantly raised, in the vicinity of the Point of Rocks.

Much anxiety has been felt and great interest excited about the possible occurrence of Coal, either of a bituminous character, or as anthracite, in the Fredericktown valley. Search has been made after this substance in various places, some of which the undersigned have had an opportunity of visiting; but so far as it can at any time be deemed prudent to come at positive conclusions from observations which were necessarily only superficial, they must report that they have not been so fortunate as to perceive the least evidence of the certain existence of this very desirable mineral in any locality within the valley of Fredericktown.

At a place known by the name of the Yellow