SLATE.—One of the best known roofing slates in the United States is the so-called Peach Bottom slate of Lancaster and York counties, Pennsylvania, and Harford county, Maryland. The slate belt forms a narrow zone which begins a short distance east of the Susquehanna river in Lancaster county and passes in a southwest direction through the southeastern corner of York county, terminating near Pylesville on the Baltimore and Lehigh Railroad in Maryland. The age of this slate has been determined on fossil evidence to be that of the Hudson river shales of the lower Silurian. The slates of the Peach Bottom region were worked as early as Revolutionary times, and show almost no change after an exposure of a century. Several quarries are to-day worked in Harford county, although the business is largely operated by persons living in or near Delta, Pennsylvania. In 1896 the total output of Maryland had a value of $90,100.

THE SANDSTONE.—Sandstones are found at many horizons in Maryland. Many of these are well suited to furnish valuable building stones, but as yet only one or two localities have furnished this material for more than local use. These sandstones are found in the Newark formation in the Frederick valley, in the quartzite belt of Deer creek in Harford county, in the Weverton formation of Cambrian age in the Blue Ridge district, and in the Silurian and Devonian formations of Allegany county.

The sandstones of Triassic age possess a recognized reputation in the market and have been extensively developed throughout the Triassic belt of the eastern United States, and large quarries have been opened in this formation in Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Jersey. A belt of this rock enters Maryland between Emmitsburg and Union Bridge, rapidly narrowing southward through Frederick county; while another area occupies the southwestern portion of Montgomery county. The most extensive quarries of this sandstone in Maryland are situated near the Potomac river, the largest at the mouth of Seneca creek in Montgomery county, and a somewhat smaller one near Washington Junction. Still smaller quarries for local uses are found at more northern points. The Seneca sandstone has been quarried in a more or less systematic way since 1774, when it