some cases, exhausted. Igneous rocks of natural origin bear com-parison with the vast heaps of solidified slag that have accumulated about the iron furnaces. The shovel, scraper and steam shovel have made great holes in the surface and have piled up mounds of débris in a manner that no natural forces can duplicate; the streams have been modified and erosion accentuated in some localities and retarded in others. Of course, the effects of Man’s efforts have resulted in only minor modifications of Nature’s handiwork although in our egotism we are inclined to boast of human achievements.

The first white settlers came to the region a little over 200 years ago and the increase in population has been a steady one ever since. Although the agricultural interests predominated for the first decades, the manufacturing industries were early developed and for many years have been dominant. The transportation facilities and the proximity to the metropolitan districts have given the county an industrial advantage which has been still further enhanced by the nearness of the anthracite mines. The mining and quarrying operations have contributed much to the development of the county. At one time it ranked as the most important iron ore producing section of the State. In recent years it has been foremost in the slate and cement industries.

The future of the region involves pure speculation. Man and Nature in cooperation and in opposition are continually changing the topographic features of the region. If we were safe in concluding that the agents and forces now at work will continue to operate as they do now, we might compute the time that will be required to wear down the existing hills and reduce the entire region to a monotonous plain across which lazy streams might take their winding course to the sea. The history of the region does not warrant the assumption of such a premise. We may be certain that the region will continue to change but in what manner and at what rate we do not know, and what its appearance will be when other millions of years have left their marks no one can say.

CULTURE

Use.—With the exception of the most rugged portions of Kittatinny (Blue) Mountain and the South Mountains, all of North-ampton County is inhabited and the soil or underlying rocks have been utilized for the growing of crops, the mining or quarrying of useful mineral products or for the sites of structures of various kinds. The cultivated portions of the county are used for growing wheat, corn, hay, oats, barley and potatoes and for grazing. Dairying is an important industry. The location in proximity to the great commercial