The first intention was to locate all the springs on the county map but this proved impracticable. The greater number shown in certain places does not mean that they are more abundant there but only that more of them have been located in those areas. Most of the important springs are shown in the vicinity of Kreidersville and Seemsville.

In general the springs of the Martinsburg belt do not furnish a large supply of water but generally enough for farm uses. Many of them are permanent and can be depended upon at all times, but many more flow only during the winter and spring. During prolonged droughts some disappear. Others cease to flow for no obvious reason but probably owing to the blockage of the channels or the opening elsewhere of easier passage. The permanence of these springs accounts for so few of the streams of the region becoming dry during the late summer and early fall.

The temperature of the water issuing from the springs is sufficiently high even during the extremes of winter to prevent freezing. During the winter of 1937-1938 several springs were examined at intervals. Most of them remained at 51° F.; a few changed from 53° F. to 47° F. during cold periods.

The Northampton County Home one and one-half miles west of Nazareth, was until recently supplied with water from several strong springs that issue from the slate half a mile north of the buildings. This water has now been condemned and the institution is supplied by the Blue Mountain Water Co. The spring water is available in case of an emergency. It is collected in a reservoir and piped to the buildings. The water-works were built in 1875. A famous spring a short distance from the old Nazareth Hall in the west part of Nazareth supplied the town for nearly a century. These large springs evidently reach the surface along well-defined fissures which were produced by earth movements and probably extend to great depths. The water rises under artesian pressure.

Even though springs are abundant in the slate region, they cannot supply all the residents, and wells must furnish much of the water needed. Hundreds of wells have been dug or drilled. Most of them are less than 100 feet deep. Many wells only twenty feet deep furnish enough water for farm use. Near Dammersville the wells range in depth from twenty to sixty feet. In general it is necessary to go deeper on the uplands close to the deep narrow valleys than farther back on the divides. Wells yield a fairly steady supply of water but not in large quantity. The water comes in slowly. One concern desiring a large supply, dug several shallow wells of large diameter.

All the old wells were dug by hand but almost all those put down during the past twenty years are drilled wells. These are generally