494 Wisconsin Historical Collections [vol. iii

the logging streams, occupied by the hardy woodsmen, who supply the raw material for building up our cities and towns. The railroad reservation embraces a district forty-eight miles wide, extending north to the State Line, in which the Company is allowed to locate the line of road. Near the northern line of this reserve, on the Michigan side of the Menomonee river, lies the most southern of the iron ore beds, discovered by John Jacobs, Esq., of the town of Marinette, at the mouth of Menomonee river. His position as an Indian trader on that stream for a number of years, and his frequent excursions to its head waters, have made Mr. Jacobs well acquainted with the country around it. He reported the existence of this bed of ore to the Geological Surveyors, and it was subsequently visited by Col. Whittlesey. He reports it as being about two miles from the river, where sufficient water power exists for smelting the ore.

The ore is the specular variety, associated with talcose and argillaceous slates. It makes its appearance on the north side of a lake, and can be traced a mile and a half in length, and in places is exposed one hundred feet in width. The ridge in which it is found is about one hundred feet high, and shows nothing but slaty ore for forty rods upon its summit. It bears nearly east and west. It is a specular ore, of a bluish-black color, fine-grained, and gives a red streak. On the south and east, there is abundance of wood for charcoal.

Four miles east of this ore bed appear ledges of compact marble, from ten to sixty feet in height, dipping N. E. by E. Its prevailing color is a pale blue, like that at Muskos river, beautifully marked with white, green, and red stripes. It can be quarried in large and solid blocks, is susceptible of a high polish, and would afford a highly ornamental material for architectural purposes. Near the falls are beds of slate, which can be quarried and used for roofing purposes.

Of all the locations of iron ore, I must content myself with giving the characteristics of the most prominent only,