

those found in the tertiary strata at Grignon—in others the shelly matter is wanting, but the hard limestone retains the forms and markings of the originals. The corals are imbedded in a similar manner; and masses occur in the limestone so like the fossil corals of the oolite of this country, that it requires an experienced eye to detect their real nature.

In a suite of specimens, showing the transition from loose sand to a solid rock, we have—

1. Broken shells and corals, retaining their colours.
2. Similar materials, more comminuted and completely bleached.
3. An aggregation of fine sand, broken shells, and corals.
4. Coarse friable limestone, resembling soft chalk, and composed of comminuted corals, &c.
5. Hard limestone, of similar materials.
6. Compact limestone, enveloping shells and pebbles.
7. A fine indurated limestone, so hard as to be with difficulty broken by the hammer, inclosing a few shells, and corals: this stone is employed for building.

Mr. Lyell has described a fresh-water limestone, containing recent shells and aquatic plants, which is in the progress of formation in the lakes of Forfarshire, in Scotland.* In the specimens before us, which were collected by Mr. Lyell, are various

* Geological Transactions, vol. i. p. 73, new series.