

London and Hampshire, and the remains of other beds in Yorkshire, and in Norfolk and Suffolk. In France, the metropolis is situated within the confines of a tertiary basin; and in the south and north of that country, extensive tracts are formed of these deposits; in Auvergne, where they are associated with ancient volcanic eruptions, they constitute a district of unrivalled geological interest. In the Sub-Apennines, they are largely developed; and in other parts of Sicily and Italy they insensibly pass into vast beds, which are still in progress of formation.

12. NEWER TERTIARY, OR PLIOCENE DEPOSITS.

—From the large proportion of recent species of shells which occur in some of the pliocene strata, the beds have the appearance of a modern aggregate, as the extensive and beautiful collection from Palermo, before us (for which I am indebted to the kindness of the Marquis of Northampton, P.R.S.) well displays. A low range of hills, rising to an elevation of about 200 feet above the level of the Mediterranean, immediately behind Palermo, is in a great measure constituted of coarse limestone, formed of friable shells, which are frequently in an admirable state of preservation; white and brittle in general, but in some examples preserving their markings and natural polish. The elegant and picturesque manner in which they are occasionally grouped together, renders them objects of great beauty and interest. These shells, with but