

are in a friable state, and stained with sulphuret of iron. The teeth and scales of the fishes present a high polish, and are coloured by a ferruginous impregnation. Wood occurs in the state of lignite, and in brown friable masses, which quickly decompose upon exposure to the air, but when enveloped in flint, the structure is well preserved; like the fossil wood of the tertiary, it has evidently been drifted, and is perforated by teredines; the fissures are often filled with glittering pyrites.

In the *Galt*, the nacreous covering of the shells is commonly preserved, and the ammonites and nautili of Folkstone rival in beauty the shells of the London clay, and, like them are subject to decomposition. The *Green-sand* fossils are generally silicified, and the whetstone pits of Devonshire are celebrated for the variety and *chalcedonic* state of the shells in which the sandstone abounds.

The organic remains of the chalk formation already known, amount to many hundred species of shells, corals, radiaria, &c. The most distinctive zoological character, is the abundance of belemnites, echinites, and ammonites: the latter are the shells of an extinct race of cephalopoda, which appear for the first time in the chalk, no traces of their remains having been discovered in the tertiary formations: My collection, consisting of many thousand fossils from the chalk formations of England and America, displays the usual genera and species, together with many that are exceedingly