

of land, and the action of rivers and currents. The observations on the nature of oceanic deposits in a previous lecture (page 47), will have prepared you for the appearance of such anomalies in the beds of the ancient seas.

7. GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE OOLITE AND LIAS.—The oolite (comprehending in this term the series of strata above enumerated) forms a striking feature in the physical geography of England, from the southern shore near Exmouth to the Yorkshire coast. It constitutes a tableland of considerable elevation, the highest points attaining an altitude of 1500 feet, which extends in a tortuous line through Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, and Somersetshire, to the coast of Dorsetshire. It generally presents a bold escarpment to the west, and slopes regularly to the east, dividing the eastern and western drainage of that part of England.\* The lias forms a district that runs parallel to the escarpment of the oolite, from beneath which it emerges, and traverses the country from the Yorkshire coast, near Redcar, to the cliffs at Lyme Regis. (See *Geological Map of England*, Plate X.)

On the continent the oolite appears in Normandy, and its characteristic fossils prevail in the quarries around Caen; diverging into several branches or ranges of hills, it traverses France,

\* Geology of Yorkshire, by John Phillips, Esq. F.R.S., Professor of Geology of King's College.