

the fact of the greatest number of fossil insects yet noticed in the oolite, having been found where the remains of the pterodactyles also occur, seems to establish a connexion between these creatures, not merely accidental; and that it is probable the whole of the deposits of this local group of the Jura limestone, may have been effected on a coast where the water was not deep, and on the shores of which the flying reptiles chased their insect prey. The same geologist considers it probable that these lithographic limestones may have been deposited contemporaneously with the wealden.

13. COAL OF THE OOLITE.—In the tertiary system of Provence, we noticed the occurrence of beds of coal and carboniferous strata, with limestone containing fresh-water shells and crustacea (page 245); and in the lacustrine deposits of the Rhine, accumulations of brown coal, or lignite (page 269). In the wealden, lignite was also observed; and in some localities (as at Bexhill, in Sussex,) in such abundance, and associated with shales and laminated sandstones, so much resembling the ancient carboniferous beds, as to have led to an expensive and abortive search for coal. The lower division of the oolite in Yorkshire, and in Scotland, contains coal formations; and as these exhibit the transmutation of vegetable substances into a carbonaceous mass, under circumstances widely different from the examples we have hitherto noticed, I will offer a few remarks on these deposits.