

disruptions of the strata, and subsequent denudations. Its course and extent, from Yorkshire to the Dorsetshire coast, are admirably described by Mr. Conybeare,* from whose work the following abstract is derived.

The lias, from its northernmost limits on the Yorkshire coast, where it underlies the strata of the eastern moor lands, passes to the south of Whitby and to the east of York, and crosses the Humber, near the junction of the Trent and Ouse; stretching onward beneath the low oolitic range of Lincolnshire, it extends to the Wold hills, on the borders of Nottingham and Lincoln, and the celebrated quarries of Barrow-upon-Soar; whence it continues, accompanying the escarpment of the inferior and great oolite, through Nottingham, Warwick, and Gloucester. Its whole course, to within a few miles south of Gloucester, is remarkably regular, presenting an average breadth of about six miles, bounded on the south-west by the oolite, and on the north-west by the red marl, which will hereafter be described. Beyond Gloucester, its course becomes intricate; its eastern limit accompanies the oolite through Somersetshire to Lyme Regis; but the western is very irregular, feathering in and out among the coal-fields, which occur towards the estuary of the Severn and the upper part of the Bristol Channel, Gloucestershire, Somersetshire, Monmouthshire, and Glamorgan-

* Outlines of the Geology of England and Wales, p. 261.