

NEW OR UPPER RED MARL OR SANDSTONE.

(Comprising the *Grès bigarré* of the French, and the *Muschelkalk* and *Keuper* of the German geologists.*)

1. Variegated red, bluish, and white marls, with gypsum and rock salt.
2. Variegated red and white sandstone.
3. Conglomerates formed of the detritus of the older rocks.
4. Red mottled sandstone, and marls.

Total thickness, about 300 yards.

MAGNESIAN LIMESTONE OR ZECHSTEIN.

1. Red and white marls.
2. Magnesian limestone; white, red, or yellowish limestone, with a large proportion of magnesia, in thick beds, with marine organic remains.
3. Marl slate, in thin layers, containing reptiles and fishes. The *Keuper schist* of Mansfeld.
4. Marls and variegated sandstones, with sands and clays of variable thickness and character.

Total thickness, 100 yards.

From this general view, the saliferous system is seen to consist of a series of blue marls, red sandstones, magnesian limestones, and conglomerates, more or less coloured with peroxide of iron; the upper divisions containing salt and gypsum, and the lower, calcareous rocks, having in their composition a large proportion of magnesia. As a whole, the strata are comparatively scanty in organic remains; but in some localities plants of several genera and species, ammonites, nautili, belemnites, and other marine shells, plesiosaurs and

* De la Beche. Geolog. Man. p. 376.