

fawn or yellow colour, and in some parts is of a crystalline, in others of a concretionary character. In many places, and particularly in the quarries around Sunderland, it presents a beautiful example of spheroidal structure, evidently superinduced on stratified detritus *after its deposition*; for the laminæ traverse the globular masses uninterruptedly, as in the grit of Tilgate Forest, and appear to have been occasioned by a slow chemical segregation of the materials. These clusters of spheroids, from the magnesian limestone near Sunderland, exhibit the principal varieties; some of them partake so much of the appearance of organic remains as to have been mistaken for fossils. In chalk the same structure sometimes prevails, as in these examples from Preston chalk-pit, near Brighton, discovered by my son, Mr. Walter Mantell. The limestone is commonly traversed by veins or strings of carbonate of lime, and occasionally incloses hollow spheroids of calcareous spar, with sulphate of strontian and barytes. Galena, sulphuret of zinc, and carbonate of copper, occasionally occur. At Mansfeld, in Germany, beds of slate, abounding in copper (*keuper schist*), and containing fossil fishes of a peculiar character, are intercalated in this rock.

23. CONGLOMERATES OF THE NEW RED SANDSTONE.—The conglomerates of this formation are chiefly composed of materials derived from the disintegration of more ancient rocks; fragments and pebbles of slate, quartz rock, granite, porphyry,