

its waters. I do not say that this immense river was formed or supplied by the drainage of what we now call Great Britain—I do not indeed know where this continent lay, but I do know that England formed a part of it, and that in size it must have been

Chalk under the Microscope.



Fig. 129.—Chalk of Cattolica, Sicily (magnified).

larger than Europe, and was probably as large as Asia, or the great continent of America." Speaking of the geographical extent of the Wealden, Sir Charles Lyell says: "It cannot be accurately laid down, because so much of it is concealed beneath the newer marine formations. It has been traced about 200 miles from west to east; from the coast of Dorsetshire to near Boulogne, in France; and