

northward by Beaminster and Sherborne to the east end of the Mendip Hills and the neighbourhood of Bath, where it forms the flat tops of the scarped hills intersected by so many winding valleys. From thence, in a long narrow strip, it runs on by Wotton-under-edge, Dursley, and Painswick, in Gloucestershire, near which, on the flat-topped Cotswold Hills east of Cheltenham, it broadens, and more or less forms great part of the wide plateau that extends from Burford to the neighbourhood of Chipping Camden. Beyond this region it narrows, and finally thins away, and as a limestone disappears in Oxfordshire, a few miles north-east of Chipping Norton, where I shall leave it for a time.

It chiefly consists of yellow limestone, and along with other limestones of the series is called Oolitic, for in many cases they consist of concretionary bodies about the size of a pin's head, compacted like the eggs that form the roe of a fish (egg-stone) cemented in a calcareous matrix. One of the most typical sections occurs near Cheltenham, on the summit of the bold escarpment that overlooks that town. There, at the base, the Oolitic grains are often as large as peas, and the rock is locally called pea-grit.

The whole is apt to be fossiliferous, abounding in Lamellibranchiate molluscs, *Limas*, *Pectens*, *Oysters*, *Cardiums*, *Pholadomyas*, *Trigoniass*, and others needless here to name; and of Brachiopoda, *Terebratulass* and *Rhynchonellass* are exceedingly numerous. Gasteropoda also occur in profusion, including species of the genera *Pleurotomaria*, *Natica*, *Littorina*, *Patella*, &c. *Belemnites*, *Ammonites*, and *Nautili* are found in profusion, together with genera and species of sea-urchins, such as *Cidariss*, *Pseudo-diadema*, *Pygaster*, &c.