

than there is between those of what are called different zones in other recognised single formations.

Facts of this broad kind are of more importance to the general reader than trying to remember names of fossils, and what I now endeavour to do, is to disabuse the mind of the idea, too often implied in manuals, that the marked characteristic of strata is, that they consist of perfectly distinct zones, each having its own species, which have little connection with each other. What applies to the Lias and Lower Oolites, equally applies to the connection of the latter with the Middle, and of the Middle with the Upper Oolites, and I shall therefore treat the remainder of this subject as briefly as possible.

The next group of strata, as generally received, is formed of the Middle Oolites, which consist of the following divisions, the oldest being placed at the bottom :—

Coral Rag and Calcareous Grit.

Oxford Clay { Clay.  
Kelloway Rock.  
Clay ; a thin band.

In the south of England, much faulted, the OXFORD CLAY occupies considerable strips of country between Weymouth Bay and the river Bredy, about a mile east of Burton Bradstock. Beyond that faulted region, and the overlapping of the Cretaceous strata of Dorsetshire, the *Oxford Clay*, about 650 feet in thickness, comes on in great force at Melbury Samplord and Melbury Osmund, where it is underlaid by about 50 feet of Cornbrash. From thence it runs somewhat north-easterly, covering a broad tract of country, by Melksham in Wiltshire, and so on by Chippenham, Cricklade, Fairford, Bampton, Oxford, Bicester, Buckingham, Fenny Stratford