

## CHAPTER XVII.

## PLIOCENE STRATA.

THE PLIOECENE STRATA, or Newer Tertiary beds, form the succeeding division of the Tertiary series, and in England are represented by the various subdivisions of the CRAG of Suffolk and Norfolk. Resting, as these strata generally do, on an eroded surface of the London Clay, or more rarely, on the Chalk, their lower boundary is sufficiently clear; but the same is not the case with the upper limit of the Crag series, about which diversities of opinion exist, arising, no doubt, from the circumstance that it is absolutely indefinable, there being a kind of passage from the uppermost beds of Crag into overlying strata partly of drifts and glacial detritus. The whole series of Crag and disputed Crag is, indeed, probably not more than from 120 to 150 feet thick, and they make no decided mark on the physical geography of the country, though important in other points of view. After much consideration I incline, for the present, to restrict the term Crag to the following subdivisions:—

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Norwich Crag : fluvio-marine. |            |
| Red Crag.                     | } Suffolk. |
| Coralline Crag.               |            |

The *Coralline* or *White Crag* lies on the London Clay in Suffolk, and consists of a few patches found in