been brought to our notice. In our Second and Third Talks we have been led to speculate on the possible agency which transported the bowlders from their northern home. We have been thinking of glaciers as a satisfactory explanation; and this view was adopted by the late Louis Agassiz, and most ably defended by him. Now, suppose there really was a vast glacier covering the country as widely as the Drift at present covers it. The ice must have melted; it is not here now. Suppose it melted rapidly; what enormous floods must have been occasioned! With what fury those floods rushed over the country to the lower levels! How they moved and mixed and half assorted the sands and pebbles! May not such a flood have produced the results which we see in the semi-stratified Drift? And then may not an excess of water have remained in all the streams long after the southern portion of the glacier had disappeared, and the semi-stratified Drift had been put in place? Would not such a state of weather as accomplished the melting of the ice have been somewhat like our March and April weather, characterized by abundant rains? Do we not find here good grounds for the building of a theory of transported bowlders, half assorted sands and flooded rivers?

VIII. THE MUD FLAT.

SEDIMENTATION.

WHEN the road-side pool left by the last shower dries away a film of fine sediment remains. This once hung in suspension in the water; it was gathered up from the land by the eddies born of rain. We shall see that this simple observation is the key to an explanation of many of the grandest facts in the world's history.

A few years ago, in ascending the valley of the Aar, in Switzerland, I enjoyed an extraordinary opportunity to observe the action of moving water. The Aar is a turbulent stream issuing from the foot of the Aar glacier of the Jura