

The short turf on the Chalk hills, the site of ancient British sports, the seats of Druidism and ancient Kings, will ever continue to be favourite places of amusement: Gentlemen of the Turf having found this to be the best for ascertaining the comparative speed of British horses; the races of Newmarket, Epsom, Salisbury, Brighton, and several other places being on this Stratum. These open hills are also the sites of many large fairs and rustic sports. The Chalk hills have the purest air, and the clearest water flows in abundance from almost every part of their base.

This under part of the Stratum is much less chalky than the upper, it being scarcely any where soft enough for writing. It is in some places sufficiently indurated for building, in many burnt to lime, and in some parts used on the roads combined with flints, or, for want of better materials, alone; as at Market-Weighton, Marlborough, and the vicinity of Warminster.

Sharp ridges terminating in prominencies, are formed of this under part of the Chalk Stratum, as that between Dorchester and Weymouth, which extends through the Isle of Purbeck, to the remarkable promontory at its east end, which recommences in a still more remarkable one called the Needles, and extends in a ridge through the Isle of Wight. The promontory of Beachyhead is formed by the termination of a ridge of Chalk, called the South Downs; and that between Folkstone and Dover, of the ridge of Chalk which extends from thence through Kent and Surrey, to the Hogsback.

The chain of hills formed by the escarpment of this part of the Stratum, toward the south, and of the south Downs toward the north, are called, by the inhabitants of the interior weald district, the north and south Chalk hills. These, and other parts of the Chalk, from the abrupt ascent occasioned by it on every road south-west and north of London, are well known to travellers; as Beachy-head, Flamborough-head, and the north Foreland and cliffs of Dover, are known to mariners.

A singular variety, at least in the appearance, of this under part of the Chalk, occurs in Lincolnshire, which, from a tinge of red oxide of iron, is there called red caulk. The same, very highly tinged with red, reappears on the opposite side of the Wash, under the cliff exposed to the sea, at the north-western point of Norfolk. Various beds towards the bottom of the Chalk sandy, and fine grained, seem to indicate the change to the coarser Strata of Sand which lie beneath. Considerable protrusions of the lower part of the Stratum of Chalk, Hurlock, Malm, and Firestone, greatly inferior in altitude to the general range of high downland, occur in several parts of the interior course of the Strata. Dunstable stands on the plain of one of these protrusions.

Other such projections, shown on the map by a second shade of green, about Watlington, spread westward to Tetsworth, which is on the extremity of the white or malm land.

South-west of the Thames, and similarly spread far west of the general line of Chalk hills, this kind of white land may be traced parallel to the river, half way from Wallingford to Abingdon.

The vale of Pewsey, and other vales which deeply indent the line of Chalk outcrop in Wiltshire, have some of the same kind of land. Some white land also spreads wide from the general range of Chalk, north-eastward of Dunstable, in different places thence to Cambridge.

ORGANIZED FOSSILS.

FIG.

1	Inoceramus Cuvieri	-	-	Knook Castle and Barrow, Heytesbury.	Hunstan-
				ton Cliff.	
2	Inoceramus	-	-	Wilts (Warminster).	
3	Cast of a Trochus	-	-	Mazen Hill.	
4	Ammonites	-	-	Mazen Hill.	Norton Bevant.
5	Cirrus depressus.	-	-	Warminster.	
6	Terebratula	-	-	Heytesbury.	
7	Terebratula	-	-	Heytesbury.	Warminster. Mazen Hill.
8	Terebratula subundata	-	-	Heytesbury.	Mazen Hill. Warminster.
9	Shark's teeth	-	-	Warminster.	