

beds have been discovered in England which bear a nearer approach to them in chemical and external characters than the faint resemblance of the above imperfect calcareous beds. (C.)

Wherever this clay is visible in the form of a cliff, or has been perforated in sinking wells, it has uniformly been found to contain nearly horizontal layers* of ovate or flattish masses of argillaceous limestone; which, as they mostly exhibit, though not always, the appearance of having been traversed in various directions by cracks since partially or wholly filled by calcareous spar or sulphate of barytes, have obtained the name of *Septaria*. These masses abound so greatly, that they have been

That at Mr. Fulk's in the Regent's Park. (Ibid.)

140 feet of blue clay

42 feet of red clay

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That of Mr. Cooke's, in Swallow-street, Westminster. (Ibid.)

18 feet gravel and loam

12 feet yellow clay

130 feet blue clay

50 feet red clay

210

Water to within 60 feet of the surface.

At Epping in Essex, on the north-east of the metropolis, the clay seems to possess the greatest depth, viz. 392 feet; the particulars of the sinking of a well there are given in a note under the head (*f*) thickness of this stratum.

In the Agricultural Survey of Middlesex, several sections may be found: near Kensington the borings present, 1. vegetable mould; 2. flint gravel, 5 to 10 feet; 3. lead coloured clay, 300 feet, 4. oyster shells, &c. sometimes concreted by a calcareous cement, 3 to 5 feet; watery sand. On the east and south-east of London, the clay formation grows rapidly thinner, the subjacent beds approaching more nearly to the surface. In some sections (the particulars of which will be given in treating of the inferior plastic clay), the thickness of the London clay was found as follows. 1. At Liptrap's and Smiths' Distillery, one mile on the east of London, 77 feet; 2. at Bromley near Stratford le Bow, 44 feet; 3. on the north shaft of the unfinished tunnel of Rotherhithe, about one mile east of Bromley, 49 feet; in the southern shaft, in which direction the strata rise, only 9 feet. (C.)

Hordwell cliff, on the coast of Hampshire, is about 150 feet high and a mile and a half in length; for nearly 60 feet from the surface it consists of red gravel. The remainder of the cliff is clay, through which land-springs are continually trickling, so that it is constantly falling. Towards the bottom, are large nodules of a hard reddish iron-stone, being no other than an entire mass of shells, with which the church, &c. are built. (G. Notes from Gents. Mag. 1757.)

* An exception to this rule occurs at Alum Bay in the Isle of Wight, where the layers of *septaria*, like the beds containing them, are in a vertical position.