

Aix : the coal is here even worked beneath the chalk. North of Valenciennes, the edge of the chalk appears to trend to the east, but it is generally overlaid by the sandy superstrata through the Netherlands ; it may however be seen on the south of Maestricht, and at Henri Chapelle near Aix. From hence, it may be considered as ranging beneath the sandy and diluvial tracts of North Germany, towards Berlin ; the whole of this district is well known to present the appearance of an uniform and vast sandy heath, covered with a deep accumulation of diluvial gravel, in the midst of which occur enormous rounded blocks of granite, for which a source cannot be found nearer than the opposite shores of the Baltic—thus exhibiting one of the most striking problems submitted to the investigation of geology. The great mass of this gravel, however, consists of chalk flints, well marked and bearing traces of all the characteristic fossils : at least nine-tenths of the whole consist of these ; a sign that the parent formation can be at no great distance. In such a tract, a rock *in situ* is like an oasis in the desert ; at Luneburg however the fortifications are partly constructed on a rock of gypsum, and about a quarter of a mile hence, on the left of the road to Hamburg, the writer of this article was gratified by detecting a chalk-pit which had escaped the attention of former observers : it contains the usual alternation of flints, and affords good specimens of the inoceramus, echinites, and most of the characteristic fossils. On entering Poland, the chalk throws off the mantle which has for a time concealed it, and reappears in a line of hills running nearly parallel to the Carpathians ; it is finely exhibited at Cracow : it contains abundant flints, affords the usual organic remains, and rests on green sand ; it was here examined by Professor Buckland. Hence, passing by Lemberg, it appears to extend into Russia. Hills of chalk were noticed by Dr. Clarke at Kasankaiya on the Don, and the town of Bielogorod, signifying the white city, is said to take its name from white hills of the same substance in its neighbourhood. Engelhardt observed chalk, containing its usual flints and fossils, even in the Crimea.

No particulars can be gathered of the eastern or north-eastern boundaries of this formation. We may conjecture however that they pass by the Valday hills to the mouths of the Vistula ; thence, the northern border must run eastward through the Baltic to the island of Rugen, where chalky cliffs present themselves on its northern coast, being found also on the neighbouring continent, in Pomerania and Mecklenburg. Hence the line appears to pass to the south of Sweden, where a small chalk tract occurs near Malmo, crossing to the opposite coast of Zealand, and including the small isle of Mona on the