

mass: they often occur of a cylindrical form, and were heretofore picked up and preserved under the name of *thunderbolts*. Often, however, these masses have undergone decomposition while in situ, so that nothing is left but an ochreous mass, which has occasionally been observed to penetrate the surrounding chalk, colouring it in concentric circles of various shades of brown. The pyrites is sometimes deposited around shells. (P.)

In a chalk quarry at Bishopston down near Warminster in Wiltshire, enormous blocks of crystalline carbonate of lime, one of which weighed 50 cwt., and measured between 30 and 40 cubic feet, was cut into slabs for chimney pieces at Mr. Noel's, a stone-mason at Warminster. They lay in the upper chalk almost close to the surface, and the flinty chalk is much thinner in this than the adjoining quarries. Calcareous spar also occurs in a chalk quarry at Nook near Heytsbury, in blocks less both in number and size. (G. Notes.)

A brown or blackish brown substance has been observed coating the chalk in several places in Suffolk. It has sometimes the appearance of a sooty powder, but is occasionally fibrous. It has been noticed by the Rev. J. Holme in a pit near Budlingham bridge in the parish of Frecklingham; in another near West Row Ferry, and also at West Row near Mildenhall, and is considered by that gentleman to be most probably the black oxide of manganese; this however requires confirmation. (P.)

The chalk of Claxby in Lincolnshire is very fibrous in the cracks, and when exposed to air, powdered with black specks, but in the interior it is beautifully white: grey flints are disseminated through it. (G. Notes.)

A septarium found in chalk at Steyning in Sussex, is now in the collection of Mr. Parkinson. (G. Notes.)

(c) *Organic remains.** Under this head, the chalk presents us with phenomena very different from those of the more recent formations.

Although numerous individual specimens are every where to be found, yet the number of genera to which they belong are restricted within comparatively narrow limits.

If variety be wanting, it is however compensated by novelty. In the abundance of the newer beds, although the species were usually different, yet the genera agreed with those still found in the ocean: but here we are presented with many new genera, and probably not a single species will be found, identical in all its characters with any now known to exist.

* The whole of this article is by the Rev. W. D. Conybeare, F.R.S. &c.