

river does not subside, and the stream suffers no diminution. But in times of drought, the water within these caverns being gradually absorbed, that of the river is drawn off into them; and, in proportion to the degree of drought, the stream is diminished. In very dry seasons, the current is in certain places (particularly at Burford-bridge, near Box hill, and a little lower, between that and Norbury park gate, and at that gate and Norbury meadows) entirely exhausted, and the channel remains dry, except here and there a standing pool. By the bridge at Thorncraft it rises again in a strong spring, and after that the current is constant. At a place called the Way-pool, near the turnpike-gate, but on the side of the river next to Box hill, the method in which the water is thus drawn off, is visible by the observer. It hath here formed a kind of circular basin about 30 feet in diameter, which is supplied, in the ordinary state of the current, by an inlet from the river of about two feet in breadth, and one in depth. This inlet being stopped, the water in the basin is soon observed to subside; and, in less than an hour, totally disappears: when the chasms, through which it passes off, at different depths from the upper edge of the bank may be easily discerned. And, from this circumstance of betaking itself occasionally to these subterraneous passages, the river probably derived its present name of the Mole. In more ancient times it seems to have been called the Emlay. (Manning's Surrey, vol. I. iii.)

Near the bottom of Hawke's hill is a large pond, formed by several strong springs, which are seen in many places rising from its bed with strong ebullitions. It turns a mill, capable of grinding 20 loads of corn a week, and in a few yards runs into the river Mole. (Manning's Surrey, vol. I. p. 482.)

Section III.

Particular view of the Sections of this Formation in the cliffs of the southern coast.

We have already observed that the sections of this formation, exhibited in the many magnificent ranges of cliffs on the southern coast which result from them, and whence our island is supposed to have derived one of its earliest names, are so important as to demand a particular examination, and on this we now propose to enter. (C.)