

Cypria of Lamarck, and figured in Sowerby's Min. Conc. Plate 31. fig. 1.

Since the recent *Vivipara* is a fluviatile shell, it is argued that this formation, at least that part of it which contains the marble in question, must have been deposited from fresh water; but the identification of species does not appear to be made out with such decided evidence, as to render it proper hastily to admit this supposition, until the other organic remains of the formation shall have been examined and ascertained. The work of Mr. Mantell on the fossils of Sussex, will doubtless ere long supply this deficiency.

(d) *Range and extent.* With regard to the range and extent of this formation, we must begin by observing, that the difficulty of discriminating between this and the Folkestone clay in the Northern and Midland counties prevents our speaking positively as to its course in those quarters, neither are we as yet in possession of materials which will enable us to trace it in the Western counties.

The Southern counties can alone, in the present state of our information, be cited as affording undoubted localities of this bed. In these, however, several distant points in Dorsetshire, the Isle of Wight, and the Weald of the South-eastern counties, enable us to assign to it a considerable extent, and to speak of it with the lights derived from comparative observations. In Dorsetshire it may be traced in the Isle of Purbeck, dividing the green and iron sands, but it thins off to nothing in the western part of that peninsula. In the Isle of Wight it may be observed holding a similar position, and having obtained a greater thickness, it may be traced following the green sand under the central chalky range—and again underlying the same formation in the southern range of the undercliff.\*

Its position in the Weald is sufficiently indicated in the head of this article: it there possesses a thickness many times greater than in either of the preceding localities.

\* In the neighbourhood of Black-gang chine this stratum is very visible. It was the cause of a great land-slip which took place in the year 1799, and of another fall eight or ten years ago; springs of water, to which both may be attributed, still continue to make their way through the blue marble on the east of Black-gang chine.

Whenever the land springs act on this stratum, it becomes of the consistence of mud, runs out, and leaves the sandstone without support; which, being deprived of its foundation, of course tumbles down. (W. p. 134.) To this circumstance is to be attributed, in part at least, that immense ruin which forms the striking feature of the Isle of Wight; and which being now variegated by rocks, and woods, and cottages, and corn fields, is become the principal attraction of the visitors to the island.