

prevail, occasionally alternating with subordinate beds of clay, loam, marle, fullers' earth, and ochre.

The sand and sandstone are entirely siliceous, and generally contain brown oxide of iron in a considerable proportion; often indeed in such quantity as to have rendered many of its beds worth the working as an ore of that metal, while the forests of the county were still in a state to afford a ready supply of fuel on the spot. Hence the tracts occupied by this formation, at once strike the eye from the brownish red aspect of their soil. Some of the sandstone beds, however, in which the iron is less abundant, are of a yellow, and even of a light buff colour.

The texture of these sandstones is evidently mechanical; they often indeed form coarse grained conglomerates, consisting of pebbles (principally quartzose), from the size of a pigeon's egg to that of a pin's head, imbedded in a ferrugino-siliceous cement; hence a regular gradation may be traced into a very fine-grained sandstone.*

This formation often contains (especially in Bedfordshire, Dorsetshire, and near Hastings) a considerable quantity of fossil wood, and even regular beds of wood coal. The sands alternating with these beds also much resemble, in some places, those occurring in the great coal formation; this is particularly the case at Lulworth Cove in Dorsetshire, where the strata of this series completely assume the character of an imperfect coal formation. These circumstances have led to expensive but abortive attempts to procure this combustible from these beds near Bexhill in Sussex.

The following additional particulars are extracted from Mr. Greenough's notes. Ferns, charred wood, and other supposed associates of coal, occur in the white and grey sandstones of this series, but rarely in the ferruginous. The sinkings at Bexhill in Sussex, attended with so great an expense, were conducted in these beds. It is said that a kind of cannel coal occurs on the banks of the stream dividing Heathfield and Waldron parishes in the same county, extending for a quarter of a mile in beds from two to ten inches thick near the surface,

* About Horsham in Sussex this formation yields flags for pavements: at Battle Abbey the groin work which is in good preservation, is of free-stone belonging to this series; it forms a good coping stone: near Lynn in Norfolk the iron clinkers are much esteemed as a building stone, and are in common use about Tunbridge in Kent; being little subject to injury by exposure. At Faringdon in Berkshire they are made into mill-stones. The want of materials however for the roads is severely felt in the Weald of Kent and Sussex, and generally wherever the ferruginous sand appears on the surface, as the sandstone is more usually of a friable texture. (G. Notes.)