

at the bottom of Geer's Wood, and on the skirts of Filmoor. (Morn. Chron. Dec. 1810. G. Notes.)

Silicified wood occurs in it at Aspley, Crawley, and other places in Bedfordshire; and jet is said to have been worked in the parish of Wotton on the borders of Surrey and Sussex. (G. Notes.)

Coaly matter occurs in the parishes of Crawley and Warplesdon in Surrey; and at Flimwell the sand contains carbonaceous matter and a thin bed of vegetable. (G. Notes.)

The beds of fullers' earth which occasionally alternate in this formation, have been extensively worked in Bedfordshire. An account of them is given in the Philosophical Transactions for 1723, by Mr. Holloway; as this memoir is very short, possesses considerable merit, well illustrates the disposition of the beds of this formation in that part of their course, and is moreover highly interesting as a very early specimen of accurate geological observation, it is reprinted in the note below.*

* An account of the pits for Fullers' earth in Bedfordshire; in a letter from the Rev. Mr. B. Holloway, F.L.S. to Dr. Woodward, &c. From the Transactions of the Royal Society, vol. xxxii. p. 419.

Bedford, 6th July, 1723.

" I went a few days ago to the Fullers' earth pits at Wavendon near Woburn, where there are several pits now open; but, as the men were only at work in one, and I understood the earth was disposed in much the same manner in all, I did not trouble myself to go down into more than that wherein they were digging; in which I found things disposed thus.

From the surface, for about six yards depth, there are several layers of sands, all reddish, but some lighter coloured than others, under which there is a thin stratum of red sandstone, which they break through; and then for the depth of about seven or eight yards more, you have sand again, and after that come to fullers' earth; the upper layer of which, being about a foot deep, they call *ledge*; and this is by the diggers thrown by as useless, by reason of its great mixture with the neighbouring sand, which covers, and has insinuated itself among it; afterwards they dig up the earth for use to the depth of about eight feet more, the matter whereof is distinguished into several layers, there being commonly a foot and a half between one horizontal fissure and another. Of these layers of fullers' earth, the upper half, where the earth breaks itself, is tinged red, as it seems by the running of water from the sandy strata above, and this part they call the *crop*, betwixt which, and the ledge above mentioned, is a thin layer of matter not an inch in depth, in taste, colour and consistency not unlike to Terra Japonica. The lower half of the layers of fullers' earth, they call *wall-earth*; this is untinged with the red above mentioned, and seems to be the more pure and fitter for fulling; and underneath all is a stratum of white rough stone, of about two feet thick, which, if they dig through, as they very seldom do, they find sand again, and then is an end of their works.

One thing is observable in the site of this earth, which is, that it seems to have every where a pretty horizontal level, because they say that when the sand ridges at the surface are higher, the fullers' earth lies proportionately deeper.