

subordinate beds of ochre cover the Aylesbury limestone beds on the summit of Shotover hill, which forms a corresponding elevated group to that of Brill, over against which it stands; and it may be traced hence throughout the southern vale, as the dark red soil, prevalent on the road to Tetsworth, at once indicates to the eye.

On the opposite side of the Thames, the system of hills of which Shotover forms a part, is continued through the north of Berkshire by the range of which Cumnor hurst forms the highest point on the east, and Faringdon clump on the west. Both these summits are capped by the iron sand, but it has been denuded off from a great part of the intervening ridge, and occurs in these points only in the form of insulated and outlying groups. The main course of the formation lies through the southern valley, but is mostly concealed by alluvia from the overhanging ranges of chalky downs.

In Wiltshire, we are informed by Mr. Townshend, that this sand occurs at the foot of Beacon hill in the road from Pewsey to Chippenham, and may thence be traced rising up all the way to Lockswell heath and Dring hill. That it also emerges from beneath the clay at Foxhanger, west of Devizes, and thence rises up to Seend. It is here described as being a pudding-stone, composed of rounded quartz, whose cement is siliceous with a red calx of iron, containing ore formerly in much request for the furnace and the forge, and forming the material whence the ancient Britons wrought their Quern stones.

It seems probable that in proceeding farther west, this formation thins out and expires, since we do not meet with any traces of it in the west of Dorsetshire; but in the south-east of that county it is very strikingly displayed throughout the Isle of Purbeck, where it consists of many beds of quartzose conglomerate, and of coarse and fine-grained sandstones containing seams of wood coal. It here forms a narrow stripe (the high inclination of its strata reducing the space they occupy in their superficial appearance) running parallel to the chalky downs, and along their southern foot.

In the Isle of Wight it forms the substratum of all the southern half of the island; cliffs of it may be traced from Sandown bay on the east to Freshwater bay on the west, excepting where concealed by the subsided ruins of the under-cliff.

In the south-eastern counties, this formation constitutes the central chain of hills which traverses the Weald of Sussex from Hastings to Horsham, and sends off several branches, one of which extends to Tunbridge Wells. It is separated on the