

north from the Ragston hills by a broad valley of deep clay through which flow the two streams which unite to form the Medway. On the south, a similar broad valley of clay separates the range from the Sussex chalk downs. (G. Notes.)

(e) *Elevation, &c.* In the Midland counties, as has been already observed, this formation constitutes the mass of a chain of hills extending through Bedfordshire, and forms the summits of the continuation of the same chain which ranges through Bucks, Oxon, Berks, and Wilts. This chain however is much broken. Its highest point appears to be at Brill hill on the borders of Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. The greatest height of the hills of this formation, which constitute the central nucleus of the Weald in the south-eastern counties, is at Crowborough Beacon.

(f) *Thickness.* The greatest thickness of this formation appears to be in the Weald country, where it cannot be estimated at less than 500 feet; but we have no precise data to assist us in estimating it either here or elsewhere.

(g) *Inclination.* The position of the strata of this formation is generally conformable to that of those which we have previously described, always keeping a parallelism to the great chalk ranges, and dipping in the same direction, and under a similar angle. This must however be understood with the following limitation;—that towards the south-west this stratum thins off and terminates much sooner than those which succeed it, not extending beyond the eastern division of Dorsetshire; whereas the green sand stretches into the very heart of Devon. This line agrees very nearly with that of the subjacent oolites.

(h) *Agricultural character.* The soil produced by the decay of the beds of this formation is esteemed for early crops, and is in some places exceedingly fertile; but a vast proportion of its surface is covered by heath, as is the case at Disingham Heath in Norfolk, which is high and spacious. In Cambridgeshire it forms excellent garden ground: in Bedfordshire it is considered excellent for the growth of potatoes, and there are extensive plantations upon it near Woburn; and some hop-grounds in Kent. It is very favourable to the growth of wood. The Weald of Kent and Sussex, consisting of it, is so named from the forest which formerly covered it. This sand, until the art of manufacturing iron by coal was discovered, was in great request for the furnace and the forge. (G. Notes.)

(i) *Phænomena of springs, &c.* This formation resembles in this respect all other aggregations of loose and porous strata, divided by a few others of more tenacious quality: the wells are generally deep: the waters are, very frequently, from the abundance of iron in the rocks they traverse, chalybeate; of which Tunbridge wells is a known instance.