

gritstone. These rest immediately on the subjacent Oxford clay, and may be traced through the whole escarpment of the hills composed of this formation supporting the rag and freestones. It is in the calcareous grit of this sand that the fossils of this formation occur in the greatest quantity, and especially in those immediately beneath the coral rag beds. The *ostrea gregarea* characterises the sand generally.

Iron is more or less abundant throughout the sand; sometimes so much so as to give it the appearance of the iron sand described in the former chapter.

In the vicinity of Weymouth, the beds, at the junction of the Kimmeridge clay and the freestones of this formation, are also very sandy and ferruginous.

(b) *Mineral contents.* This formation affords scarcely any thing which deserves notice under this head; calcareous spar is of course common, but does not present any beautiful varieties. Crystals of quartz have also been found, though very rarely, in the Headington quarries near Oxford.

(c) *Organic remains.** The remains of Vertebral animals are scarce in this formation; but vertebræ of the *Ichthyosaurus* have been found in its beds of calcareous grit.

The shells are numerous, especially in the beds of calcareous grit, and chiefly of the following species; for figures of which we may refer to Sowerby's *Mineral Conchology*.

CHAMBERED UNIVALVES.

Ammonites excavatus, T. 105. *A. giganteus*, T. 126.

A. plicatilis, T. 166. *A. vertebralis*, T. 165.

A. splendens, T. 103, fig. 3.

Nautilus.

Belemnites.

UNIVALVES NOT CHAMBERED.

Melania Headingtoniensis, T. 39. *M. striata*, T. 47.

Turbo muricata. T. 240. fig. 4.

Helix.

Trochus bicoronatus. T. 221, fig. 2.

Ampullaria; Smith, fig. 2.

Turritella?

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Serpulites.
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* The plates given by Townshend of the fossils of this formation require the following corrections. The *Echinites* copied from Plott's Oxfordshire, plate 5, fig. 5—9, are not from the coral rag, but from the great oolite; there are however species nearly similar in the coral rag. In Plate 6, figs. 1, 2 & 12, are from other formations. With these exceptions they may be consulted usefully. Smith's catalogue and figures are both good.