

country; but this clay is generally barren and untractable, unless where covered, as in Lincolnshire, by the White clay of that country, which is chalk breccia. (G. Notes.)

The tract occupied by this formation is indeed so frequently covered by alluvial debris that its agricultural character is very variable from this cause.

(i) *Phænomena of springs.* It is generally necessary to sink through this retentive formation in search of water. The well sunk at Boston to the depth of 478 feet has been already mentioned, and even then the attempt was abandoned without success.

The following mineral springs occur in the course of this formation, but perhaps their true seat is the upper beds of the subjacent oolites. Waters containing purgative salts; at Stanfield (in Lincolnshire); Kingscliff, (Northamptonshire); below Cumner (Berkshire); Melksham and Holt (Wiltshire). Iron and carbonic acid at Seend (Wilts), and green vitriol at Somersham, Huntingdonshire. It is to be regretted that no correct analysis of the mineral waters of this island, with the exception of a few of those of most distinguished resort, has yet been made; the analysis of the Melksham water will be found in the 'Guide' before alluded to.

Section V.

*Lower Division of Oolites.**

A. *Upper beds*, associated with the Great Oolite and containing the subdivisions *Cornbrash*, *Stonesfield slate*, *Forest Marble*, and *Great Oolite*.

Introduction.—In the general view of the Oolitic series (p. 166,) a synoptical table of this lower system of oolites (which far exceeds in thickness and importance the two former,) has been already given. Since the subdivisions into which it may (occasionally at least) with propriety be resolved, are so numerous that it would introduce some confusion to treat of them all in a single section, at the same time that many of them cannot be considered as either sufficiently universal or extensive to be entitled each to a separate section; and since an arrangement so minutely divided would both have perplexed the memory and given rise to much unavoidable repetition, we shall, led by the great principle of convenience, attempt to reconcile as far as may be consistent with that precision and generalization of method which appear desirable, pursue a

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