

river, which trends round in a singular manner, on the east. Their breadth to the north of Lincoln is inconsiderable, and here the great oolite almost exclusively prevails; but to the south of Lincoln they gradually expand, and it is said that near Sleaford the cornbrash can be traced on the eastern slope of the hills, separated from the great oolite by a thick bed of clay. From Sleaford we may trace the upper beds, which will of course indicate the inner edge of the tract occupied by this series, due south to Peterborough:* then, skirting the confines of Huntingdon and Northamptonshire, and forming the escarpment overhanging the Nen at Raunds and Stanwick † where shelly beds of a blue colour sufficiently compact to take a tolerable polish, and apparently agreeing with the forest marble, are worked for ornamental purposes. They proceed hence south to Bedford, ‡ and then skirt the Ouse to Buckingham and the borders of Oxfordshire; where, after examining the middle and outer edge of this part of the oolitic tract, we will resume our account of their course.

Through this tract, the great oolite forms a zone to the west of the places above mentioned. It does not appear that the line of demarcation between the oolite which is worked in the quarries at Stamford and Kettering on this line, and the upper beds of this series, can be traced with precision. If the calcareous slate of Collyweston (south of Stamford) be justly referred to the forest marble, a line drawn hence by Raunds and Stanwick will however ascertain a part of this division.

The western boundary of the great oolite, and its junction with the subjacent sands, also requires to be more carefully examined through the south of Lincolnshire and Rutlandshire. It appears to extend some way over the summits of the sandy

* The following are the memoranda made by the author of this article in crossing the range of this system of beds from Peterborough by Stamford towards Leicester. "Between Peterborough and Castor a stonebrash soil prevails: at Castor, beds like those of the forest marble may be observed; at Sutton near Castor fine oolite is worked; from Wansford to Stamford a closer-grained buff coloured limestone clouded with blue prevails: the same character extends quite to the edge of the great oolite about two miles east of Uppingham, where it is succeeded by the red coloured beds of the subjacent sands."

† Improperly included by an extension (though a very slight one) of the colour assigned to the Oxford clay, under that formation in Mr. Greenough's Map.

‡ These beds of limestone are worked in the north of Bedfordshire, at Bletsoe, at Felmersham, near Bedford, and at Turvey; and on the north of Buckinghamshire, at Olney, Newport Pagnell, Thornton, and Buckingham; at Skerrington field near Newport Pagnell, the palates and teeth which have been considered as characteristic of the forest marble, have been found together with the jaw of a species of lacerta.