

to have been formed of it. The rock on the south of Bletchington, as far as Islip, and on the first hill beyond this village on crossing the little river Ray, agree sufficiently both in character and position with the cornbrash. At the point last mentioned they approach within half a mile of the coral rag series; so that the intervening clay must be here comparatively thin.

If any regular division of the upper beds of this series from the great oolite can be here traced, it must probably cross the Cherwell a little to the north of Enslow bridge; since the beds at Gibraltar, close to this place, agree most nearly with the Cornbrash. Here the remains of a well characterised crocodile have been found. The section afforded by a well sunk at Blenheim appear to confirm this line; it is as follows; limestone rock 70 feet; blue clay succeeded by a lighter clay in which was the water, 10 feet; total depth 80 feet: the water was probably in this instance carried by the clay above the great oolite. The crop and course of this clay on the surface, has not been clearly ascertained, but may probably be traced along the saine between Ditchley and Blenheim parks, and then along that on the north of Stonesfield which opens at the village of Fawler (south of Charlbury) into the valley of the Evenlode. Crossing the Evenlode, the forest marble beds appear to crown the hills through the forest of Whichwood, whence its further course will be most conveniently treated of when we proceed to trace the course of these beds through Gloucestershire, since the Evenlode seems to form the natural boundary between the system of hills connected with the uplands of North Oxfordshire, and those dependent on the Cotteswold hills.

The boundary of the Oxford clay and Cornbrash may be sufficiently assigned by a line drawn from Kidlington on the River Cherwell to the north of Lechlade on the borders of Gloucestershire.

Having thus traced the inner edge and upper strata of this oolitic series through Oxfordshire, we may proceed to trace the inferior and exterior edge through the same district, since the natural divisions of the country coincide in this instance with the political, inasmuch as the range of these beds through Gloucestershire (on which we shall next enter) forms the continuous range of the Cotteswold hills, which, having suffered less from the denuding causes that appear to have ravaged the tract now under consideration, present less complicated phenomena.

We have before traced the outline of the great oolite at its junction with the subjacent sand rocks through Northampton-