

from Langridge by Swanswick entirely cuts the ridge of Lansdown from the main chain; and that coming down from Catharine's to Bath Easton, nearly affects Charmey down and Salisbury hill (an insulated summit of the great oolite hanging over Bath Easton on the west) in the same manner. Bathford stands at the mouth of another similar valley extending upwards to Box; and the main valley of the Avon (justly celebrated for its picturesque character) continues to form a denudation in the inferior strata as high up as Bradford, where the crop of the great oolite crosses the river.

The whole range of the Cotteswold escarpment throughout Gloucestershire, has in ancient military operations afforded a strong and commanding line, and is occupied by numerous camps; partly at least belonging to the line of defence fortified by Ostorius; a map of this line may be seen in the *Archæologia* for 1820.

V. *Course through Somerset and the North of Dorset.* From Melksham, whither we had before traced it, the *superior junction* of these beds with the Oxford clay proceeds in a slightly undulating line southwards,\* a little east of Froome, Wincanton, and Stockbridge; beyond which, turning slightly westwards, it meets, and is overlaid and concealed by, the great south-western extension of the chalk.

The clay separating the upper beds from the great oolite (properly so called) has at first a very tortuous line (which is very correctly given in Mr. Smith's Map), occasioned by the *configuration and inequalities of the surface cut by its plane*, which is varied by lofty hills and deep vallies. Crossing the northern branch of the Avon close to Bradford, it ascends the back of the hill between it and the southern branch of the same river, which it crosses a little south of Farley, and then ranges over the summit of the elevated platform on its left or western bank, on which stand Charterhouse Hinton, and Norton St. Philip. The Cornbrash ranges along the escarpment on the right bank of the stream by Tellisford,† having a slight cap of the lowest beds of the Oxford clay abounding with selenite, and appears on the left bank as an insulated cap to the hill on that side between Tellisford and Norton. There is another insulated cap of this rock, not exceeding a few acres, close to

\* The outline in Mr. Smith's Geological Map is here preferable to Mr. Greenough's, which is distorted by throwing the limestone of Stourminster (probably belonging to the coral rag) into the great oolite.

† This is the point to which the section at the beginning of the paragraph on the chemical and external characters of the great oolite particularly refers.