In the Weymouth elevated district, the beds of this formation, which form its saddle, are sometimes considerably inclined.

The most remarkable phænomena which require notice under this head, are those of the large subsided portions of these beds now found pitched at the bottoms of vallies traversing the subjacent rocks and at a considerable distance from the present line of extension of the formation to which they belong. We have already particularised many instances of this kind in the north of Oxfordshire. They must be considered as the remnants of the strata, once generally covering the hills at whose base they are now found; which, having been undermined by the causes that have excavated the vallies, have slid down into their present position, where they are naturally thrown into a direction inclined in general at a considerable angle to the horizon.

The precipitated masses of the great oolite scattered over the slope of the subjacent fullers' earth on the hanging of many of the hills round Bath, are phœnomena of the same kind.

The phœnomena of these subsided masses which have assumed their present position in consequence of having been undermined by the excavation of the subjacent soft strata, and thus slidden downwards, must not be confounded with those cases of subsidence which are accompanied by vertical fissures or faults traversing the strata to a great depth, and in which the whole series of strata affected by them (soft as well as hard) is let down together. Both the circumstances and causes of the latter are clearly distinct from the former; no partial undermining action can account for them; but they must be referred to causes seated at a great depth and acting in the same manner as the force producing earthquakes.

Further particulars of these undermined and precipitated masses in the neighbourhood of Bath, will be found at the end of the article corresponding to this in the next section; since, as the inferior oolite partakes of these disturbances, it will be more convenient to keep the description of the whole of these cases together.

stanced in regard to position, were the effect of regular deposition. The upper beds in the first, and the upper and lower in the second section, agree with the general dip of the beds of this formation; that is, to the south-east, and at a very small angle. The lower beds of the first figure are not only curved, but also take the reverse direction. Instead therefore of considering these beds as the result of regular stratification, they should undoubtedly be regarded as the consequence of contraction, from causes which it may be difficult to explain, during the consolidation of the stratum. Townshend refers to several similar instances near Bath: we have before mentioned the like false cleavage (if the expression may be allowed) in the coral rag.