

town, but the ferruginous sands cross it between Adderbury and Astrop.

On the west of this valley, an elongated and insulated ridge of hills, capped by the strata belonging to this part of the series, extends from the north-east angle of Oxfordshire into the contiguous parts of Warwickshire, ranging on the west of Fenny Compton (the quarries of which place have been already mentioned in describing the general characters of the formation), to North End in Burton Dasset parish. This ridge forms a projecting head-land advancing over the subjacent lias plains, and commanding extensive views towards the Malvern hills at the distance of 40 miles.

A breadth of one mile, exposing a valley of denudation in the lias clay, and conveying a streamlet which joins the Cherwell at Banbury, separates this ridge from the range of Edge hill, an elevated platform terminating in a sharp angular point (near which is a very perfect Roman camp) on the north, and forming what may be considered as the eastern promontory of the great lias bay of Shipston on Stour, which has been before mentioned as deeply indenting the general line of the hills of this formation. The escarpment of Edge hill, which commands extensive views towards the chain of Abberley and Malvern, is very abrupt and almost precipitous towards the north and west, and nearly coincides with the boundary line of Oxford and Warwickshire. In the latter direction a little south of the inn called Sunrising (where the road to Stratford branches off from that to Warwick) a colossal figure of a horse, similar in design to that of the Berkshire downs, deeply excavated in the ferruginous sands, formerly gave from its colour the name of the vale of the Red horse to the plains of Shipston beneath. The original figure has been destroyed by recent enclosures; and modern art has only replaced it by a miserable colt; the breed appears to have become degenerate;

“*Venale pecus Corythæ posteritas et
Hirpini.*”

As far as the Red horse, the platform of Edgehill is varied only by long vallies, furrowing it to convey tributary streamlets towards the Cherwell in a south-east direction; but on the south of this point a groupe of rounded conical summits, (exactly resembling those already described near Arbury hill in Northamptonshire) rises above, and breaks its long level outline. Shenlow hill above the village of Shennington (which stands on the brink of a picturesque valley) is the most northerly and conspicuous of these summits; Epwell hill is another point of the same groupe, and is estimated in the Trigono-