

Fell, &c. Gypsum is abundant in this tract; hence the red marle extends into the south of Dumfrieshire. (C.)

Returning to the great plain in the centre of England, we here find a tract of about eighty miles in length and sixty in breadth, principally occupied by this formation; several islands of the older rocks, however, rising in various places through it, as described in the beginning of this article. These are 1st. the sienite, greenstone, and slate district of Charnwood forest in Leicestershire; 2dly, the coal district surrounding Ashby de la Zouch in the same county, connected with which are several patches of the older or carboniferous variety of magnesian limestone, and a patch of millstone grit at Stanton bridge on the Trent, (see pl. 2. fig 2); 3dly, the coal-field of Warwickshire; 4thly, the Coal-field in the south of Staffordshire, with the transition limestone on which it reposes; 5thly, the lower and northern range of the Lickey hill near Bromsgrove in *Worcestershire*, which exhibits elevated strata of quartzose sandstone, probably transition quartz rock; and has near it some small patches of transition limestone and rock.

The salt works of Droitwich in the latter county are situated in the south-west portion of this great marly plain. (C.)

The prevailing rock around Droitwich is a fine grained calcareo-agillaceous sandstone, of a brownish red colour, with occasional patches and spots which are greenish blue. At Doder hill, where a vertical section of it is exposed, it contains beds of a greenish grey colour, and of a more indurated texture, but which do not appear to differ materially in composition from the red sandstone. These contain slender veins of crystallized gypsum, the forms of which are very distinct where the widening of the vein has produced small cavities. (G. T. v. ii. p. 95.) But around Worcester it sometimes resembles mere marle, with occasional patches of a blue or of a green colour; sometimes a fine sandstone and sometimes a breccia. (K. 110.) In various parts of *Worcestershire*, there are alternations of this marle with small and large grained gritstones. (K. 109.) In one of the pits, the strata sunk through, were, mould 3 feet, marle 35 feet, gypsum 40 feet, a river of brine 22 inches; gypsum 75 feet, a rock of salt bored into only five feet, but probably extending much deeper. (G. T.)

Hence, the red marle extends southwards down the valley of the Severn, abutting against the elevated escarpment of the sienitic chain of Malvern. (C.)

The course of the red marle, near the æstuary of the Severn in Gloucestershire, Somersetshire, Monmouthshire, and Glamorganshire, has already been sufficiently indicated in tracing that of the lias, which it here regularly accompanies, seldom