

forms a principal characteristic of that rock. (G. T. vol. i. p. 98 & seq.)

The nature of the conglomerate belonging to this formation around Exeter, is best seen by the openings or quarries in its neighbourhood. That of Heavitree is situated about a mile and a half from Exeter on the road to Honiton. It is worked to the extent of a quarter of a mile in length, and to the depth of about 100 feet, in a plane intersecting that of the strata. The rock of this quarry, is a conglomerate evidently stratified; the strata are from six to eight feet in thickness, and dip south-east at an angle of about 15 degrees. As long as this rock preserves the character of conglomerate, it is compact and tenacious; and, according to the workmen employed in the quarry, it hardens more and more by exposure to the air. But as soon as the nature of the stratum changes to an arenaceous sandstone, it is tender and friable. It is very common to see blocks of it in this last state, and sometimes of a great size, included in the middle of the conglomerate. The cement of this rock is argillo-ferruginous; and by itself does not effervesce with acids, as it is easy to prove by making use of pieces of the pure sandstone for that purpose; but it produces so brisk an effervescence from the intimate mixture of calcareous particles, that it might be very easily mistaken for limestone. The substances which enter into the composition of this conglomerate are numerous; and it may first be remarked, that these pieces are of very different sizes and forms, sometimes rolled and rounded, sometimes pointed with sharp angles, from very minute grains to the size of several inches in diameter. There are found in it rhomboidal crystals of calcareous spar and crystals of felspar, most frequently of an opaque white and decomposed; pieces of chert; greywacké; yellowish limestone; rolled masses of a species of porphyry somewhat resembling the antique, the base of which is a reddish brown colour, not effervescing with acids, and containing numerous, small, and well defined crystals of felspar imbedded in it; pieces of a rock which is itself compounded, having the appearance of a porphyry, the base earthy and including small grains of quartz, crystals of felspar, and pieces of bluish carbonate of lime; and a whitish tender steatite in small angular fragments. (G. T. vol. 1.)

While speaking of the neighbourhood of Exeter, we ought, if adhering closely to the principle of pursuing the geographical course of these formations, to notice the masses of amygdaloidal trap which occur in that vicinity; but wishing to reserve the consideration of this very interesting circumstance for the close of this article, we proceed at once to the coast, a mode of