

scribed by Von Raumer,* and in part also by Von Buch in his account of Glatz.

These formations appear to skirt in like manner both sides of the Carpathian chain, which is still only a continuation of this same great primitive band traversing central Europe. The most extensive salt mines which have ever been worked are to be found in the northern sandstone zone at Wielictzka on the south of Cracow, and salt is also worked along the inner zone in several vallies descending to the west from the chain where it trends round Transylvania.† The primitive ridge of the Carpathians, turning eastwards on the south of the Danube near its mouth, assumes the name of Mount Balkan, and proceeds to the coast of the Euxine, which cuts it off; but the transition rocks on the south of the peninsula of the Crimea, appear to form a portion of its northern exterior chain, and the Caucasus to form its prolongation; both these ranges are skirted by conglomerates, probably of this formation.

The sand of this formation, containing gypsum, appears to be very abundant in the north and east of European Russia. Mr. Strangways has recently laid much important information on the mineralogical relations of this vast empire before the Geological Society, in which all the particulars hitherto collected are given. It will here suffice to observe, that if a line be drawn from Riga north of Moscow to the banks of the river Oural, this formation will be found plentifully distributed on the north and east of it, especially along the Volga and its branches on the north-east of Moscow: it appears indeed to extend to, and invest the Oural mountains with the intermixture of a cupriferous sand, probably allied to the cupriferous beds associated in this formation in Germany and the Tyrol, &c.

On the south of the Oural chain, it appears to stretch to the Caspian, and to spread very extensively in the adjoining regions of Asia. Dr. Kidd observes in his *Geological Essays*, “that when it is known that rock salt is used as building-stone at

* The reader will find an admirable digest of the statements of Freisleben, Voight, and Raumer, on the secondary formations surrounding the Hartz, Thuringerwald, and Reisingebirge, by Mr. Weaver, in the *Annals of Philosophy* for October, November, and December, 1821: we have already stated our hesitation in adopting his proposed identification of the *Rothe todte* with our older red sandstone, but in every other particular our statements will be found in exact accordance.

† Mr. Fichtel says, that on the north this zone extends from Wielictzka into Moldavia, in which interval he enumerates 58 places where salt is worked or salt-springs found, and on the south from Eperics, 4 or 500 miles eastwards through Transylvania, affording 159 localities of salt.