

limestone, of a very remarkable character, flanks it on the north-west. These require a more particular description. There are eight of these detached points, each occupying but a few acres in extent, surrounded, and as it were insulated, by overlying strata of the newer sandstone formation.

The limestone thus occurring, is strongly impregnated with magnesia, resembling in this several of the strata of the third bed of carboniferous limestone in Derbyshire. This circumstance has led some geologists to confound it with the newer magnesian limestone, from which however it is clearly distinguished by its extraneous fossils, which entirely agree with those of the mountain limestone. The quarries of Ticknall afford abundant proofs of this.

Some of these islets of limestone are nearly horizontal in their stratification, and in that case lie low : others are highly inclined and rise into hills, but of no great elevation.

As a guide to those who may be inclined to attempt the further elucidation of this district, a list of these points is subjoined, following the order in which they occur in proceeding from south to north.

1. The most southerly of these points is about five miles from Ashby on the Loughborough road, a quarter south of that road, at the point where it is crossed by the projected canal ; here on each side of the little streamlet of Grace Dieu, are quarries of this limestone. The strata are viewed on the large scale, nearly horizontal, but have several partial undulations. The sienitic crags of Charnwood forest, rise within a quarter of a mile on the south, and the coal-measures are not far distant on the west ; but the relations of the limestone with neither formation is distinctly displayed.

2. One mile north from this spot, close to the village of Osgathorpe, are quarries of the same rock, which here also appears nearly horizontal.

3. Half a mile north of this village, rises Barrow hill, entirely composed of this rock : the strata here are highly inclined, but the stratification is very indistinct.

4. Three quarters of a mile north-north-west, and in a line with this hill, is Cloud hill, altogether of the same nature : here the strata rise towards the east seventy degrees.

5. On the further side of a plain occupied by red ground, and at the distance of one mile and a half north-north-west from Cloud hill, rises Breedon hill ; which although it cannot boast any considerable elevation, is rendered by its insulated position and the church tower on its summit, a very conspicuous object. Dr. Beddoes has described the strata of this hill as rising on all sides towards its centre ; but on a very careful examination