

the whole there seems therefore every reason to believe these masses to be here at least conformably interposed among the other beds. The greatest distance to which the author of these observations traced them, did not exceed one third of a mile; but he was informed they extended nearly a mile further in a south-east direction. On the north-west he could not learn that they had been ever noticed. No dykes were known to exist in the neighbouring collieries, and they were rather free than otherwise from faults. No alteration was noticed in the shale near its contact with the greenstone at the only spot where the junction could be observed; namely the section presented by the deep cutting of the Nuneaton road. The thickness of these beds cannot be accurately observed; but they probably exceed thirty feet each.

B. Professor Buckland noticed some dykes of trap near the broken traces of the coal formation on the north of the Lickey on the opposite side of Warwickshire.

## VI. TRAP ROCKS OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

### A. *Rowley.*

The principal mass of these occurs in the southern part of the county; overlying the coal-field which surrounds the town of Dudley. It there constitutes the material of a group of hills, beginning on the south of that town, and terminating about half way between Hales Owen and Oldbury, a little beyond the village of Rowley. They appear at first sight to be a continuation of the limestone hills to the north of Dudley, as they proceed nearly in the same direction, and have the same elevation, though their size is not so great. But these hills are composed of very different constituents, and lie in a very different position with respect to the coal-formation of this country. They consist of very pure basalt, which in the neighbourhood of Birmingham is called *Rowley rag*, because the village of Rowley is situated on one of these basalt hills, and this hill appears to the eye to be the highest of the whole range. The names of these hills, beginning at Dudley, and proceeding in the order of their position, are as follow: Corney, Tansley, Bare, Cook's Rough, Ash or Cox's Rough, Turner's, Pearl, Hailstone, Timmins, Rowley, Whitworth. These hills are all covered with soil; but quarries have been opened in several of them, and the basalt of which they are composed is employed for mending the roads. The streets of Birmingham are likewise paved with it.