

					Feet.	Inches.
7.	Stinkstone, a bituminous limestone with bones and river shells, the roof of the coal	-	-	-	1 to 2 feet.	
8.	Coal	-	-	-		6
9.	Bituminous schist	-	-	-	0	6 to 8
10.	Coal	-	-	-	2	0
11.	Bituminous clay	-	-	-	6	0
12.	Molasse and sandstone	-	-	-	66	0

The bituminous strata, and shaly limestone, possessed all the characters of beds in the regular coal formations in England: probably, the fetid quality of the limestone No. 7, was derived from the abundance of animal matter which it might contain. No. 2. is subcrystalline, and, in its mineral characters, bears a near resemblance to mountain limestone.

Above the London clay, there is no calcareous formation, except in the Isle of Wight, but in the Paris basin there are two; of which the lowest is called *Calcaire grossier*.

*Le calcaire grossier*, or coarse limestone of Paris, is deposited upon the plastic clay, as the latter is upon the subjacent chalk: between the plastic clay, however, and the *calcaire grossier*, there is a bed of sand; but geologists are not determined, to which of the two formations it belongs. The *calcaire grossier* differs in its quality in the different beds, but it may be described generally as a yellowish earthy limestone, which bears some resemblance to Portland stone in its fracture, texture, and colour; but it is not oolitic. The strata of limestone alternate with argillaceous marl and shale, and with calcareous marl.

The lowest bed of *calcaire grossier* is soft, and much intermixed with green particles and sand; it contains a great number of the fossils called nummulites, on account of their being flat and round, and resembling in shape a small coin. The shells in this bed are in high preservation. In the beds immediately above, called the middle beds, there are a prodigious number of marine shells, and also the stems and impressions of leaves of plants that are not marine. In the lowest and middle of the *calcaire grossier*, no less than six hundred different species of shells are found.

In the upper part of the *calcaire grossier*, the strata are several feet thick, and yield a hard coarse-grained and durable limestone: it is from these strata that the best building-stone is procured. It is often nearly filled with shells of the genus *cerithium*, and has hence been sometimes called *calcaire à cerites*.

Between the strata of building-stone, there often occur thin strata of flint or chert; in some parts these siliceous strata enlarge into thick beds of chert, (*silex corné*), or into beds of sandstone containing marine shells; in the beds of this sandstone, at Pierrelaie, fresh-water shells have been discovered, mixed with numerous marine