

## CHAPTER XXIV.

GEOLOGICAL NOTES OF VARIOUS PLACES ON THE LINE OF THE  
GREAT WESTERN RAILROAD, FROM LONDON TO CLIFTON.

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THAT splendid railway, the Great Western, by which the geologist may be transported in five or six hours, from the Tertiary strata of the metropolis, to the magnificent cliffs of Mountain limestone at Clifton, exposes in its course several fine sections, and passes within a moderate distance of some interesting localities of organic remains.

This railroad traverses the *Tertiary* strata by Ealing, Hanwell, and Slough, entering the *Chalk* near Maidenhead, and pursuing rather a circuitous route to Wallingford, beyond which station it passes over the *Oolite*, and displays some bold sections of the limestones and clays of that formation. Near Bath it emerges on the *Lias*, and crossing a narrow belt of the *New Red*, passes on to the *Carboniferous* strata of the Bristol coal measures.\* In this route, there are four places particularly deserving a visit from the geological student, and collector of

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\* See Prof. Phillips's or Mr. Woodward's Geological Map.