

the loftiest of all the precipices which guard the English coast (660 feet), and in this formidable cliff the whole series of strata, from the sandstone which caps the upper lias to a certain depth in the lower lias, may be recognized (see p. 138). The alum-works at either end of the highest part of the cliff offer great facilities for this examination.

From their extreme height in Boulby Cliff the strata descend toward the narrow Valley of Skinninggrave, which, at a small distance from the sea, becomes richly wooded, and branches into beautiful glens. These may be well seen from Lofthouse, a large and pleasant village which thrives on the success of the neighbouring alum-works in Rockcliff. At Lofthouse, an ancient circular mound and entrenchment, on the western side of the village, merit inspection. At Skinninggrave the ironstone, already referred to in other places, is now dug for exportation to Newcastle. It contains many fossils. A fine Plesiosaurus, having Pliosaurian analogies, found at Lofthouse, has lately been presented by the Earl of Zetland to the Yorkshire Museum.

Huntcliff, west of Skinninggrave, though it does not rival the magnificence of Rockcliff, rears a long dark precipice, 360 feet above the sea, and the view of this promontory from the low shore at Saltburn is very striking.

Saltburn is the point of efflux for small streams which gather in the basin of Guisborough, and flow by Upleatham Hill and the woody valley of Skelton. A conical mound bearing a signal-staff shoots up in the little bay which is formed at the mouth of the stream, and gives a picturesque character to this little fishing station. From this point to the Tees mouth are low cliffs of drifted clay or pebbles, resting on lias; hard, firm, continuous sands spread widely from their foot, replacing the dark scars which abound from Whitby to Saltburn, and yield to the visitors of Redcar matchless rides and beautiful views of the contrasted coasts of Durham and Yorkshire.

Redcar is pointed out by nature for a harbour of refuge on this dangerous coast, which is very ill-provided with *accessible*