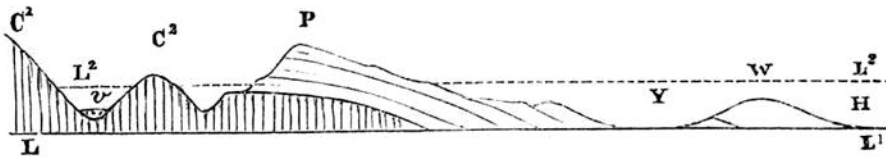


and the fossils which belong to this period in the basins of London and Hampshire is complete, and we lose an important link in the chain of life-periods. The fact is positive, the explanation not so. *Perhaps*, while the Palæotherium and Anoplotherium were roaming by the freshwater lakes of the south, and the innumerable shells, so like those of the existing ocean, and so unlike all of earlier date, were in the sea which occupied what is now the valley of the Thames, our Yorkshire hills may have stood above the waves.

This appears the more probable if we remember that the next series of deposits known in the south of England, the Coralline Crag, is also unknown in Yorkshire, and that only the later, perhaps the very latest of the Crag deposits, corresponding to the Mammaliferous Crag of the Eastern counties, has been found in our coast sections at Bridlington. According to this supposition, after the deposition of the chalk, the land was raised again gradually—there is at least no trace of violent movement—and remained very long above water, divided into islands by the long sea-channel of the Vale of York, and the shorter gulf of the Vale of Pickering.



In this condition of things the land of Yorkshire is in the state of one great mass on the west, and two smaller masses on the east, one of which, the Wold (W), is shown. The sea flows down the vale of York (Y), and covers Holderness, H. L^1 is the sea-level.

In the glacial period which follows, the land is depressed again, so that L^2 may be the sea-level as measured on the land.

PRE-GLACIAL PERIOD.—We have thus the main elements of the land of Yorkshire defined, and rendered suitable for the reception of animal and vegetable life. Plants and animals appeared upon it, not, we suppose, by creation here, but by transference of seeds through air and water, and by the various modes