

that the rock, or white-backed dove, is the original of our domestic species.

## LINE OF CROMARTY SUTOR.

WE find that there leaned against one of the precipices of the Southern Sutor, now washed by the spring-tides, a talus of loose *débris*, such as we see still leaning against the precipices of the old coast line, and that a calcareous spring, dropping upon it from an upper ledge, had, in the course of years, converted its apex into a hard breccia, and cemented it to the rock, while the base below remained incoherent as at first. During this period it must have lain beyond the sweep of the waves. But a change of level took place; the waves came dashing against the loose *débris*, and swept it away; and all that now remains of the talus is the consolidated apex, projecting about three feet from the rock. Under another precipice of the Cromarty Sutor we find a line of consolidated *débris*,—which, like the breccia of the apex, must have been the work of a calcareous spring,—running out about fifty feet into the ebb, where it is altogether impossible it could have formed now. The spring must have flowed downwards for these fifty feet ere it reached the sea; for no sooner could it have touched the latter than its waters would have been diffused and lost; and, even could they have avoided such diffusion, the waves must have prevented the loose gravel on which the calcareous matter acted from remaining sufficiently stationary for a single tide. In each of these cases is the value of the evidence enhanced by the circumstances in which it is given. Both the talus and the brecciated line were formed on a basis of granitic rock, so hard that it strikes fire with steel, and which only a general change of level could have let down to the influence of the tide, or elevated over it.