

Exuma, and elsewhere ; but the spherules are solid, and have been derived apparently from the stems of corallines. . . .

A chalk-deposit is to be found, by all accounts, in the different basins or lagoon bottoms in every principal group, though nowhere so extensively as along the western coast of Andros Island, where it may almost be termed *a young chalk formation*. . . .

“The ‘red earth’ previously mentioned as forming, generally speaking, the scanty soil of the Bahamas, is at times interstratified with the rock, and sometimes it is incorporated with it. It is identical with the ‘red earth’ of the Bermudas (specimen No. 15) which proved a considerable source of embarrassment, especially with reference to Ireland Island, by seeming to point out alternations of aqueous and other deposits, which were contradicted by the presence of the characteristic *Helix* in all the beds. In visiting a cave near Delaport in 1849, Capt. Nelson found the bottom of the cave for many feet in depth covered with a loose dry ‘red earth,’ in grains varying in size from coarse sand to fine dust (specimens 14 and 14 *a, b*). Under the microscope this appeared as a mass of insect-remains, the *rejectamenta* of bats living in these caverns. Specimens of the earth from another part of the same cave, however, were so much altered in character, that they resembled the Bermuda ‘red earth,’ and afforded a complete clue to the characters of this substance. Some of the varieties from the Delaport cave were examined microscopically and chemically by Professor Quekett, of the Royal College of Surgeons, who not only confirmed the above, but announced that all the varieties gave off ammonia, whether retaining organic texture or not. The author thinks it not unlikely that the ‘red earth,’ even in the case of the five strata in Ireland Island, has been largely derived from bats inhabiting once-existing caverns ; at the same time, he considers it probable that birds, their droppings supplying a sort of guano, have also assisted in the formation of this deposit.

“The occurrence of pumice floated ashore at Watling Island, and elsewhere in the Bahamas, is briefly noticed.”