

or *dip* under beds of blue limestone and clay, called Lower Lias (3), which are seen to dip under the Marlstone or Middle Lias (4), overlaid by the Upper Lias (5), on which rests the Inferior Oolite sand and limestone (6), followed by the Fuller's Earth clay (7). Next comes a series of strata (8), which for present purposes I have massed together, and which are known when they are all present as Great Oolite, Forest Marble, and Cornbrash. These dip under the Oxford Clay (9), which dips under a limestone called the Coral Rag (10), and still going eastward this dips beneath the Kimeridge Clay (11), which, in its turn, passes under the Cretaceous Series of this district, consisting of Gault (12), Upper Greensand (13), and Chalk (14) which in a bold escarpment overlooks the plain of Kimeridge Clay.<sup>1</sup>

Here, then, we see a marked succession of strata of different *kinds*, or having different *lithological characters*, formed, that is to say, of marls, clays, sands, and limestones, succeeding and alternating with each other. They are all sediments originally deposited in the sea, (if we except the New Red Marl, which was deposited in a Salt lake), for the forms of old life found in them prove this. Some are only forty or fifty feet thick, some are more than five or six hundred feet in thickness.

If we leave the coast cliffs and turn to the middle of



FIG. 5.

<sup>1</sup> The Portland beds being only occasionally present, are in this diagram purposely omitted, and this does not affect the general