

geological date, not later than its successor the Upper Greensand.

It would be a great comfort to a proportion of the geological population, if the different formations were as clearly distinguishable on the ground, as they are on a map, by different colours, aided by numbers or letters for the use of the colour-blind. If to this, in the economy of Nature, it had so happened that no species had been permitted to stray from its own formation into the next in succession, the benefit would have been much enhanced, for to those with keen eyes for form, the finding of any single fossil would be sufficient to mark the place in the geological scale of any given formation. Then we should have a perfect and orderly symmetrical accuracy of detail, so that he who runs may read. But it so happens that this is not the case, for Nature loves variety, and performs her functions in various ways, and thus it happens that in certain cases the dividing lines between two formations, if we follow them far enough, are sometimes difficult to determine. Of these unruly formations in England the *Upper Greensand* forms one, in its occasional physical relations to its neighbours, the Gault below and the Chalk above.

THE UPPER GREENSAND in the West of England appears in great force, forming part of the strata that extend from the coast between Lyme Regis and Sidmouth, northward to the Black Down Hills, south of Taunton. West of the estuary of the Exe, it forms, in two outlying patches, the broad-topped hills of Great Hal-don and Little Hal-don, and south of the angle of the Teign, near Newton Bushell, there is another outlier on Milber Down. These lie so near the main mass, and approximately are so much on the same level, that they