

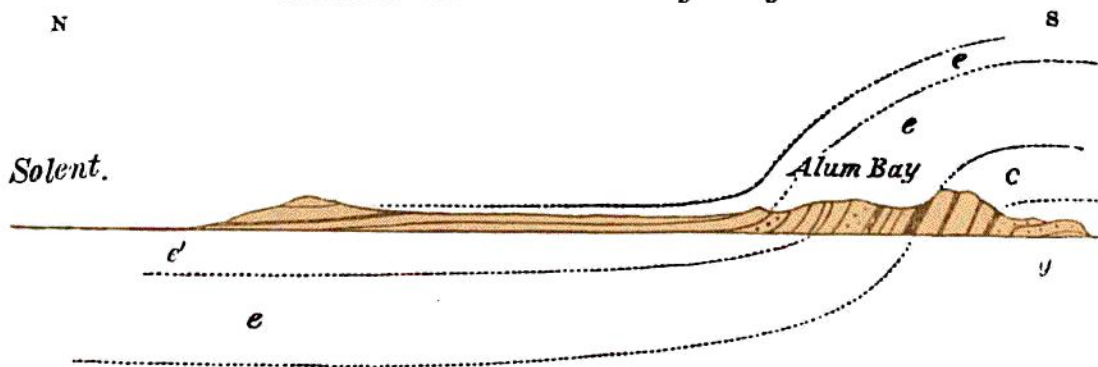
by means of which we may attempt to calculate its remoteness.

I have gone so far into details on this subject, because the 'Denudation of the Weald' has given rise to much theorising by distinguished authors, and I wish to show the reasons why I think that the amphitheatre-like form of the area, and the escarpment of the Chalk, are not due to marine denudation or the beating of sea waves. On the contrary, the outer crust of Chalk that once cased the whole as the strata of the anticlinal curve having been *planed off*, and by subsequent elevation a tableland having been formed, the softer rocks below that cropped up to the surface of this plane were then attacked by running water, and worn away so as to form by degrees the hills and valleys of the district, including the great escarpment of the North and South Downs.

Though the Secondary and older Tertiary strata of England generally lie flat or dip at low angles, yet in

FIG. 74.

*Section across the Isle of Wight.*



*g*, Lower Greensand; *c*, Chalk; *e*, Woolwich and Reading beds, London Clay and Bracklesham and Bagshot Sands, and the overlying Freshwater strata *e'*.

one instance they have been very considerably disturbed; for on a line which runs through the Isle of Wight and