

presses a wish that science would explain the manner in which vitrification of forts was effected. Having formed the opinion that the Yorkshire method of vitrification most closely resembled that used by the old fort-builders, I wrote to Mr. Burton giving an account of it, and the letter with sundry blunders in geological names is printed in a paper by Mr. John Stuart, LL.D. in the 'Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland,' 1868-9. All the vitrified forts in Scotland are either in the Highlands, or in Berwickshire and Galloway, where rocks easily vitrified abound, and but that there are neither vitrified forts nor native celts in modern Yorkshire, one would almost be tempted to speculate on the art of vitrification having descended there, from an ancient Pictish people of the bronze age, such as are supposed by Dr. Julius Ernest Fodisch to have erected the scorified ramparts of the forts in Bohemia. The vitrification of rocks in Yorkshire I have thought worthy of being recorded, throwing as it does some light on the method employed in the construction of forts in times that seem to us to be pre-historic.

The New Red Sandstone also yields its share of building stones, but much of it is very soft and easily worn by the weather, a notable example of which was seen in the Cathedral at Chester before its restoration. The white Keuper Sandstone of Grinshill, north of Shrewsbury, the Peckforton Hills, and Delamere Forest, is an excellent stone. The Old Red Sandstone is also used as a building stone in its own area, and, as already stated, the Caradoc Sandstone of Shropshire, near Church Stretton, yields a beautiful white material.

The rock-salt of Worcestershire and Cheshire is a valuable commodity. It lies in the New Red Marl,