

ness, so purely siliceous as to be valuable for glass-making. These deposits in the Isle of Wight are immediately covered by the base of the Oligocene series. They have been called "Upper Bagshot," but as they probably occupy a higher horizon than the true Upper Bagshot Sand of the London basin, the local term *Headdon Hill Sand* or *Barton Sand* is more convenient for them.<sup>33</sup>

It is probably from the Bagshot sands that the great majority of the so-called "Gray Wethers" or "Druid stones" of the south of England have been derived, which have already (p. 604) been referred to.

**Northern France and Belgium.**<sup>34</sup>—The anticline of the Weald which separates the basins of London and Hampshire is prolonged into the Continent, where it divides the Tertiary areas of Belgium from those of Northern France. There is so much general similarity among the older Tertiary deposits of the whole area traversed by this fold as to indicate a probable original relation as parts of one great tract of sedimentation. Local differences, such as the replacement of fresh-water beds in one region by marine beds in another, together with occasional gaps in the record, show us some of the geographical conditions and oscillations during the time of deposition. The following table gives the general grouping and correlation of the Eocene formations in this region:

Upper.	{	Marine gypsum of Paris basin.	Wemmelian sands of Belgium.
		Middle sands ( <i>Sables Moyens</i> ).	
Middle.	{	Caillasses or Upper Calcaire Grossier (fresh-water).	Lackenian sands.
		Middle Calcaire Grossier (marine).	Bruxellian sands and sandstones.
		Lower Calcaire Grossier (fresh-water).	
Lower.	{	Sands of Cuise and Soissons.	Paniselian sands.
		Plastic clays and lignite.	
		Limestones of Rilly and Sézanne.	Ypresian sands and clays.
		Sands of Bracheux and Meudon Marl.	Mandenian sands.

**LOWER EOCENE.**—In the Paris basin, the *Sables de Bracheux* form an excellent horizon, which corresponds to the *Thanet Sand* of England and Dumont's "*Système Landenien*" in Belgium. Below this horizon, there occurs in the Franco-Belgian region a lower series of deposits than

<sup>33</sup> C. Reid, "Geology of the Isle of Wight," *Mem. Geol. Surv.* p. 122.

<sup>34</sup> For a comparison of the Lower Eocene groups of Paris, Belgium and England, see Hebert, *Bull. Soc. Geol. France* (3), ii. p. 27. Prestwich (*Brit. Assoc.* 1882, p. 538) regards the *Sables de Bracheux* as representing only the lower part of the Woolwich beds.