

FULLER'S EARTH ROCK.

SOIL.--*Colour.* This soil is rather distinguished by its being of a lighter brown than that of the rocks above and below; but in side-lying ground it is generally mixed with the rubblestone of the rock above. When less mixed is very tenacious, slippery, and retentive of moisture. The fragments of its included rock, blended with the soil, are chiefly organized fossils.

SUBSOIL.--*Colour,* lightish blue, yellowish white, &c. varying much in the more clayey parts to dark blue.

Consistence, soft rubblestone, mixed with indurated marl, clay, and fuller's earth.

STRATUM, soft, whitish, yellowish, or light brown rock, and courses of rubblestone, generally too irregular and too slightly indurated for any use. The mass consists of this alternating with indurated marl, blue clay, and fuller's earth. The hardest bed of this stone is blue in the middle.

EXCAVATIONS, some hold water; others not.

The Fuller's Earth Rock, which in many places is so soft and imperfectly lapidified as scarcely to deserve the name of stone, with the indurated marl and clay in which it is inclosed, occupies the midway slope of many of the steep hills around Bath. Its course is more distinctly definable around the sides of those steep hills than upon the more level parts of the Stonebrash district. Its clayey soil is in some degree distinguishable by less cultivation than upon the dryer soils of the Oolite rocks, above and below it, which are more genial to the growth of corn. Woods and timber trees are also common to it, on the slopes of the hills of which it so often forms a part. Little round insular hills in the vicinity of Bath, as Duncomb, Kelweston Round hill, and Monmouth's hill, seen from Pulteney-street, Bath, are also characteristic.

This Stratum of stone, with its accompaniments, may be traced from the high ground, six miles N. E. of Bath to Northleach, through the forest of Whichwood to Ditchley, in Oxfordshire, and through Northamptonshire to the ploughed fields on the north side of Stamford, and thence through the district of Kesteven, in Lincolnshire. It may be easily identified westward to a chasm in the hill south of Sherborn, in Dorsetshire. Every where it produces a very poor soil, distinguishable by its crops, whether in grass or tillage, unless greatly assisted by art.

The colour and nature of the subsoil materially assists the identification, which some of its numerous organized fossils readily confirm. They may be collected from the ploughed lands without the trouble of breaking them out of the stone, and consequently require but little cleaning. In this, as in some other respects, its organized fossils resemble those in the Cornbrash rock.

A small species of oyster, thin, smooth, and flat, is so abundant and so strongly contrasted by its dark colour with the whitish subsoil, turned up by the plough, or exposed in wheelruts, as to be highly characteristic of the outcrop of this Stratum.

Some parts of the course of the Fuller's Earth, and interior Fuller's Earth and its rock, distinguishable chiefly by their organized fossils, long remained doubtful, as the boundaries of