

tremely greedy of moisture, is by no means uncommon within some of the flints of this bed. There are others very common to it, whose external marks, consisting either of deep indentations or small rugged projections, bespeak the probability of their formation being in some way or other connected with organic matter. But there are other flints which it is not easy to describe. They inclose a cylindrical flint, resembling the stem or a branch of a vegetable, which, passing along the mass, is visible at each end, where sometimes it divides into numerous little branches: another of the same description crosses it, giving to the external flint a peculiar shape, and inducing the belief that it must have been deposited around some organic substance, of which the form is preserved by the internal ramifications. The whole of these flints are numerous in this bed of organic remains; but I did not discover any resembling them in form and character in any other part of the chalk.

The numerous shells of the echinus, or rather the calcareous spar which has replaced them, are almost always whole; rarely was one visible that had suffered depression; but the chalk with which they are filled, instead of being finer than that in which they lie, as is frequently the case in the echini of the upper part of the chalk with numerous flints, is on the contrary much coarser and of a somewhat sandy aspect.

This bed of organic remains with interspersed flints, is separated from the bed on which it lies, the chalk with few flints, by a bed of marle two or three inches thick, which lies about 15 feet below the two beds of flint before mentioned. The exterior roughness of the bed is however far less, and the interspersed flints are fewer, for 10 or 12 feet of its lowest part, than in the middle or the upper part of it.

#### CHALK WITH FEW FLINTS.

The chalk of this bed is soft and white, though not of so pure a white as that with numerous flints. It contains a few thin beds of organic remains, which, arguing from the ochreous characters that are frequently visible, may be considered as being chiefly of sponges: these beds are most frequent and determinate just below the thin bed of chalk marle forming the separation between this and the superincumbent bed. About 20 feet below that bed, two somewhat thicker beds of soft chalk marle run parallel with each other and with the line of separation, and at about three feet apart. As the marle shivers by exposure, these two beds may readily be traced along