

leaves or fruits have been found in the Bovey coal-field; bitumen has been observed both in the coal and in the intermediate clays. Calcareous spar, and iron pyrites, prevail in many of the strata. In some places this brown coal is covered by a bed of peat, in which trunks and cones of firs are imbedded. The whole series of strata appears to have been a lacustrine deposit; probably formed in a lake or bay, into whose basin rafts of pine forests were drifted by periodical land-floods (*Org. Rem. I. p. 127.*).

The brown-coal formations on the banks of the Rhine, present the same phenomena on a more extended scale, and complicated with changes induced by volcanic action (*Wond. p. 269.*). In Iceland, where at the present time woods are unknown, there are extensive deposits of lignite of a peculiar kind, which is termed *surturbrand*.

The beautiful substance called *Jet*, is a compact lignite, and the vascular tissue may be detected even in the most solid masses; when prepared in very thin slices, it appears of a rich brown colour by transmitted light, and the woody texture is visible to the naked eye.

Jet is found in great purity and abundance in the cliffs of alum-shale on the Yorkshire coast, which were celebrated in the early centuries for the production of this substance. At Whitby and Scarborough extensive manufactories of ornaments and trinkets of jet are established. The sandstone cliffs