

which, as it was carried down into deeper and clearer water, limestone eventually accumulated. Beds of conglomerate, especially where, as in this example, they accompany an un-

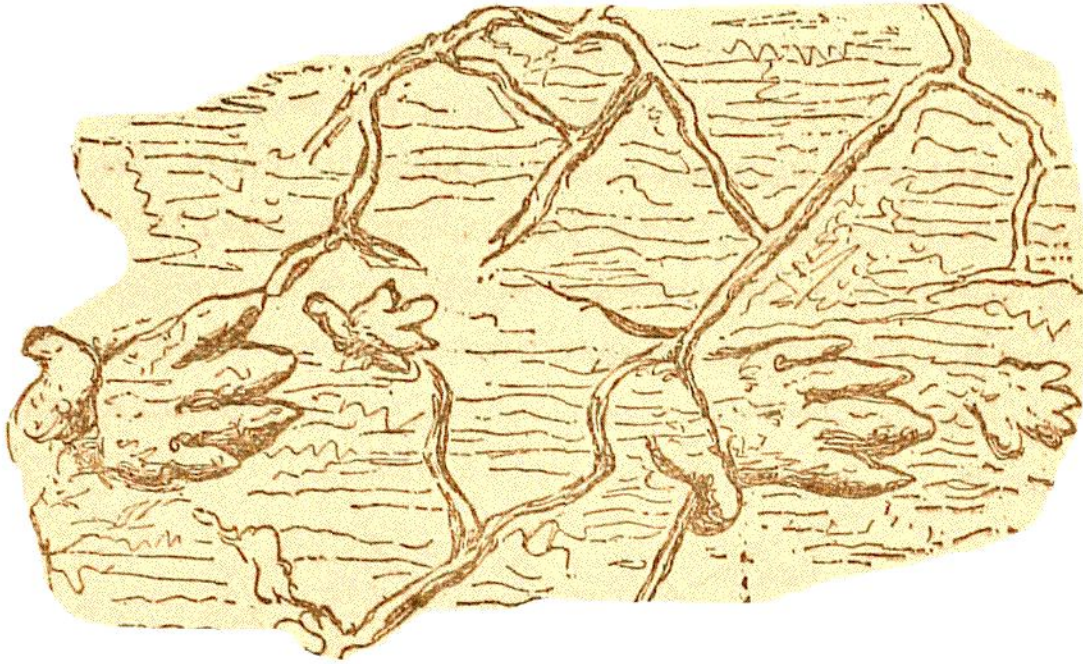


Fig. 208.—Footprints and Sun-cracks, Hildburghausen, Saxony (Sickler).

conformability in the stratification, are of much service in tracing the limits of ancient seas and lakes (see Part X.).

Gas-spurts.—The surfaces of some strata, usually of a dark color and containing organic matter, may be observed to be raised into little heaps of various indefinite shapes, not

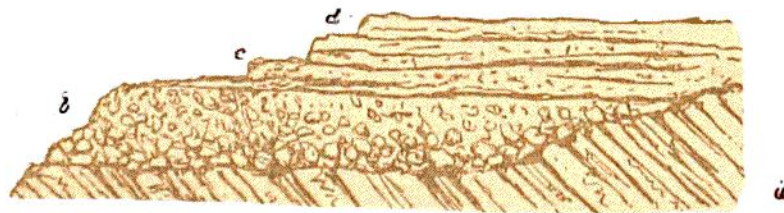


Fig. 209.—Section of a beach of early Mesozoic age, near Clifton, Bristol (B.).

a, Carboniferous limestone; *b*, dolomitic conglomerate—a mass of bowlders and angular fragments of *a* (some of them almost two tons in weight), passing up into finer conglomerate *c*, with sandstone and marl, and thence into dolomitic limestone *d*.

like the heaps associated with worm-burrows, connected with pipes descending into the rock, nor composed of different material from the surrounding sandstone or shale. These may be conjectured to be due to the intermittent escape of