Upper Chalk of Belgium.[100] It has been found also in the north of France, and at Taplow, near Maidenhead, in England.[101]

The terrestrial vegetation of the period has in different places been aggregated into beds of coal. These occur in northwestern Germany among the Wealden deposits, where they are mined for use; also to a trifling extent in the Wealden series of England; they are likewise found in the Cenomanian series of Saxony and the Senonian of Magdeburg. The upper Cretaceous (Laramie) rocks of the Western Territories of the United States consist largely of sandstones and conglomerates, among which are numerous important seams of coal. Beds of concretionary brown iron-ore are present in the Cretaceous series of Hanover, and similar deposits were once worked in the English Wealden series. In the southern European basin, where the conditions of deposit appear to have been more those of an open sea freely communicating with the Atlantic, the most noticeable feature is the massiveness, compactness, and persistence of the limestones over a vast area. These rocks, often crowded with hippuritids, from their extent and organic contents, indicate that, during Cretaceous times, the Atlantic stretched across the south of Europe and north of Africa, far into the heart of Asia, and may not impossibly have been connected across the north of India with the Indian Ocean.

LIFE.—The Cretaceous system, both in Europe and North America, presents successive platforms on which the land-vegetation of the period has been preserved, though most of the strata contain only marine organisms. This ter-

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[100] Cornet, Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc. xlii. p. 325; Renard et Cornet, Bull. Acad. Roy. Belg. xxi. 1891, p. 126.

[101] A. Strahan, Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc. xlvii. 1891, p. 356.