

THE ANTONINE WALL REPORT.

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SEABEG.—SECTION NO. 2. PLATE III.

[Section of vallum, fosse, and outer mound.]

This section is 145 yards east of the stone dyke forming the western boundary of Seabegs Wood, and it is 208 yards west of section Seabeg No. 1. It is one of the most perfect sections of the whole series, as at this point the Roman work has been particularly well preserved. The present surface of the vallum is 4 feet 6 inches above the stone base. The *kerbs* are of squared freestone and the *bottoming* of rough freestone. The *soil* is much the same as in last section—a light sandy earth with a few small pebbly stones. There are a very few signs of the presence of some of the whitish clayey substance. The *layering* here answers also very closely to the description given in last section, being very faint, and, indeed, requiring some search to find it. There are four darkish lines visible—black at some points, but generally a faint reddish brown. The following is the result of the analysis of samples which were examined:—A thin black line, 8 inches up from the base, had 5·4 per cent. of vegetable matter; the second, 13 inches up, had 5·1 per cent.; the third, 24 inches up, had 4·5 per cent.; a red line forming the fourth had 3·9 per cent. The lines are *not protracted* beyond the south kerb; but the soil to the north, although it cannot be said to contain protractions of the lines in the vallum, has a curious independent diffused black line from 1 to 2 inches thick, starting about 6 inches above the level of the kerb, sloping downwards, and terminating apparently near the limit of *débris*. Analysis of a sample showed that it contained 5·9 per cent. of vegetable matter. It deserves to be noted that, in the immediate vicinity, when a sod is cut, it shows a mossy growth dark in colour, forming the mould nearest to the surface, and contrasting with the reddish soil below. The *fosse* here was filled up to some extent with mossy growth and *débris*. Scarp and counterscarp are of reddish sandy soil like the vallum, but with larger stones and without any signs of the whitish clayey substance. A considerable body of moisture being held in the mossy growth in the ditch, the water gathered fast when the bottom of the ditch was