

*bedded*, the beds being separated by thin clays: the marlstone series (*d*) consists of sandstone beds, calcareous beds, and ironstone bands, separated by thin clays or shales.

The *lias formation* is included between the Bath oolite formation above, and the red sandstone formation below.

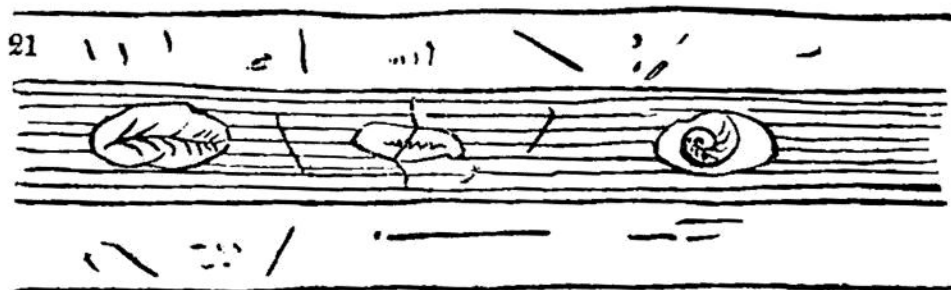
According to this mode of description, the word *stratum* need never be used as a special term of definition, but reserved for general reasoning. The word *series* is found to be extremely serviceable in designating a number of similar or similarly associated rocks: the arbitrary word *group* is also convenient in geological description.

The lamination of rocks offers some interesting facts. Some beds of gritstone (as *a*) are composed of laminæ parallel to the plane of the beds; such lamination is generally produced by the alternation of mica, whose broad plates cause a partial disunion of the parallel laminæ of quartzose grains. Other beds (as *b*) are composed of oblique or curved laminæ, a circumstance generally dependent on the irregular admixture of pebbles shells, or particles of unequal magnitude. The former may be supposed to be tranquil, the latter dis-



urbed, deposits.

In shales and other argillaceous rocks, nodules of ironstone or limestone, aggregated round some solid



bodies (as a leaf or shell), are frequently included, and sometimes these interrupt the lamination of the