

	No. of Species.	Thickness of Strata.	No. of Species to 100 feet thickness.
Living - -	5000		
Tertiary - -	2728	2000	137
Cretaceous - -	500	1100	45.5
Oolitic - -	771	2500	31
Saliferous - -	118	2000	6
Carboniferous - -	366	{ 5100 }	3.6
		{ to 10,000 }	
Silurian and Grauwacke - }	349	{ 20,000 }	1.7
		{ or more }	

The most predominant of the recent forms of mollusca are the classes of Conchifera, Gasteropoda, and Cephalopoda; these are also the most numerous in a fossil state, for of pteropodous mollusca, a few traces only occur in the tertiary strata. If the recent species of shelly mollusca be supposed to amount to 5000 species, the numbers belonging to each of these great classes may be stated thus, —

Conchifera - -	1800
Gasteropoda - -	3100
Cephalopoda - -	100

As far as yet is known, the same classes, in a fossil state, contain, —

Conchifera - -	2130
Gasteropoda - -	2276
Cephalopoda - -	698

If we analyse the classes, greater discordances appear. Thus the existing conchifera ranked in three groups, present the following numbers, —

Conchifera plagimyona (<i>Latreille</i>) -	1400
———— Mesomyona (<i>Latr.</i>) -	350
———— Brachiopoda - -	50

but in a fossil state the numbers are about,

Conchifera plagimyona - -	1030
———— Mesomyona - -	720
———— Brachiopoda - -	380

In the same way it appears, that while in existing