The above diagram represents the whole series of rocks of this system, in their real order of superposition. The following reference will be sufficient to aid the reader's conception.

E. Uppermost system (Hougill, Kentmere), 1000 yards or more.	Great mass of grauwacke (3), above alternations (1 and 2) of grauwacke and grauwacke slate.
D. Slaty limestone (Coniston, Low Wood), 100 feet.	Dark argillaceous limestone, with shells and corals.
C. Middle slaty group (Langdale, Borrowdale), 1000 yards or more.	In the upper part (4) are dark, flaggy, and slaty rocks; the middle (2) abounds with fine green slates; near the bottom (2) most of the rocks are mottled, amygdaloidal, or fragmentary; 1 is a red argillaceous mottled rock, which sometimes appears like a conglomerate.
B. Lowest slaty group (Skiddaw) 1000 yards.	It consists almost wholly of dark, soft, useless slate: toward the lower parts chiastolite abounds in it (2), and near the base hornblende.

A. Of the gneiss and mica schist system is a mere trace, over granite.

The series in North Wales is considerably similar, but appears less complete in the lower part.— The following is Sedgwick's arrangement.

E. Plynlymmon Rocks, probably several thousand yards thick.	Grauwacke and grauwacke slate, of great thickness, with some beds of conglomerates.
D. Bala limestone.	Dark limestone, associated with slate, yielding shells and corals.
C. Snowdon rocks, probably several thousand yards thick.	Various fine grained purple, blue and green slates, fine and coarse grauwacke and conglomerates, often alternating, mostly possessing slaty cleavage. — Organic remains in particular beds.

Organic Remains.—This is the oldest system of strata in which organic remains are certainly known to occur: they are not found in the lowest group of Skiddaw, but occur to the extent of a dozen species (our own observation) in Snowdon; and, perhaps, twice that number are found in the limestone of Bala and Coniston, and in the slates of Cornwall, supposed to be of nearly the same antiquity as the rocks of Snowdon. It may surprise the speculators in cosmogony to hear that these, the most ancient forms of life known to us, should be, not plants but animals; not merely zoophyta, but conchifera; not the lowest grades of their respective classes, but perfectly developed lamelliferous zoophyta, and brachiopodous