

and there is so great and real an analogy between the Llandeilo, Caradoc, Wenlock, and Ludlow formations, as to permit our viewing them all as one varied series of deposits effected by one general system of mechanical, chemical, and vital agencies. The succession of the deposits is very simple. The length of geological time which elapsed in their production, if judged of by the merely mineral character of the masses, does not require to be thought greater than that which must be assigned to such a varied formation as the lias; nor does the inference that might be drawn from this comparison fail with respect to the organic remains: for the different mineral groups of the lias formation are quite as well distinguished *locally* by their different suites of fossils as are the successive formations of the Silurian system.

Organic Remains. — In accordance with the view of the gradual introduction of organic life on the changing globe, which was stated while discussing the history of the slate system, we find in these newer rocks a far greater abundance of forms, a far greater predominance of numbers, among the lower orders of animals, but yet few plants. From the Silurian system in England and Wales, the Eifel, Norway, the Harz, and N. America, several hundreds of organic fossils have been collected, and partially or completely described, by Goldfuss, Münster, Dalman, Green, Brongniart, Sowerby, Murchison, and others. In 1831 tables were drawn up to the extent of 553 species (*Encyc. Metrop.*). The following summary of those tables is all that can here be introduced:—

Plants, 14 species, viz. :		[The algæ are chiefly from Christiania, the others mostly from the anthracitic deposits of Baden. It is important to ascertain, exactly true geological place of the latter since the similar culm series of Devon, usually ranked as grauwacke, is thought by Murchison and Sedgwick to belong to the carboniferous system.]
Algæ -	4	
Equiestaceæ -	2	
Filices -	5	
Lycopodiaceæ -	2	
Asterophyllites	1	

Should this suggestion prove correct, a considerable anomaly will be removed from Geology, for all the genera found on the Rhine occur more plentifully in the carboniferous system, and are not known elsewhere in the