

remains of that class have been discovered. Certain species of trilobites occur in one division of the formation, and are absent in the others; the *homalonotus* (Tab. 134) is restricted to the upper groups, and the *trinucleus* (of Murchison) to the lowermost; many species of shells, corals, and crinoidea have also stratigraphical limits.* It will suffice for our present purpose to state, that beneath the Devonian system there is an immense thickness of marine strata, composed of sands, sandstones, limestones, and conglomerates; some of which were originally coral reefs, while others are composed of the remains of crustacea and mollusca belonging to extinct species and genera. The slates of Dudley limestone before us, are made up of corals, shells, and trilobites, cemented together by indurated clay or mud; the strata from whence they were obtained appearing to have been formed in a manner similar to recent coral banks.

4. THE CAMBRIAN, OR SCHISTOSE SYSTEM (of Professor Sedgwick). Plate VII. fig. 9; Plate IX. fig. 2.—The Silurian formation is succeeded by a vast series of strata of a slaty character, which are destitute of any distinct assemblage of organic remains, although fossils occur in some of the rocks. This system extends over a great part of Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Lancashire, reaching to elevations of 3000 feet, and giving rise to the grand scenery of the lakes and of North Wales.

* See Silurian System, vol. ii. p. 703.