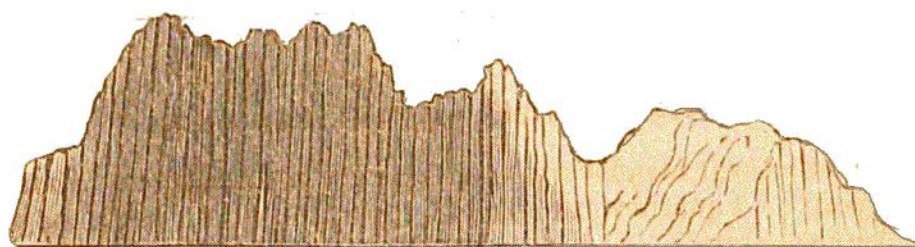


of these rocks, are too well known, from the universal employment of slate for economical purposes, to require particular description. The colour usually approaches to blue, grey, green, and a dull purple; and the texture is very fine, although occasionally the slate is seen to pass into sandstone and greywacké.

5. THE STRUCTURE OF SLATE ROCKS.—The structure is laminated, and the planes of deposition are commonly well marked; but there are also divisional lines called *cleavage* planes, which traverse the sedimentary, and give to these ancient argillaceous rocks a very peculiar character.



TAB. 139.—SLATE ROCKS AT WHITESAND BAY, NEAR ST. DAVID'S, PEMBROKESHIRE.

(The lines of cleavage and stratification coincident.*)

In some instances, the lines of cleavage are in the same plane as those of the strata, as in this section (Tab. 139); but commonly the cleavage is in a different direction to the stratification, the respective lines crossing each other at various angles. In the quartzose grit and sandstone of Llandovery, (Tab. 140, fig. 1), and in the slate rocks at White-

* Mr. Murchison's *Silurian System*, p. 399.