

of recent and fossil shells in the cabinets of Messrs. Buchanan, Anthony, and Clark, I examined with care the quarries of blue limestone and marl in the suburbs. The organic remains here are remarkably well preserved for so ancient a rock, especially those occurring in a compact argillaceous blue limestone, not unlike the lias of Europe. Its deposition appears to have gone on very tranquilly, as the *Lingula* has been met with in its natural and erect position, as if enclosed in mud when alive, or still standing on its peduncle. Crustaceans of the genus *Trinucleus* are found spread out in great numbers on layers of the solid marl, as also another kind of trilobite, called *Paradoxides*, equally characteristic of the Lower Silurian system of Europe. The large *Isotelus gigas*, three or four inches long, a form represented, in the Lower Silurian of Northern Europe, by the *Asaphi* with eight abdominal articulations, deserves also to be mentioned, and a species of graptolite. I obtained also *Spirifer lynx* in great abundance, a shell which Messrs. Murchison and De Verneuil regard as very characteristic of the lowest Silurian beds of Russia and Sweden. Among the mollusca, I may also mention *Leptæna sericea*, *Orthis striatula*, *Bellerophon bilobatus*, *Aveculæ* of the subgenus *Pterinea*, *Cypricardia*, *Orthoceras*, and others. There were also some beautiful forms of Crinoidea, or stone-lilies, and many corals, which Mr. Lonsdale informs me differ considerably from those hitherto known in Britain, a circumstance probably arising from the small development of coralline limestones in the Lower Silurian strata of our island. Several species