

Lastræas, and others of smaller growth, while all forest trees attain a goodly growth, and low down in the flat, deer are grazing up to the gates of the old broad-fronted timbered Hall. It is indeed a splendid sight to stand on the edges of these scarped hills and look across the great rolling plains of New Red Sandstone below, bounded by Moel Famau and all the mountains of North Wales that surround the beautiful Vale of Clwyd; or twenty miles further south, from the abrupt cliff of Grinshill, to see the tall spires of Shrewsbury backed by the renowned *Caer Caradoc*, the *Wrekin*, the high line of the flat-topped *Longmynd*, and the craggy *Stiper Stones*.

The New Red Marl passes insensibly into the *Rhætic* beds, which again pass insensibly into the *Lower Lias*. In England there is therefore a gradation between the New Red Marl and the *Lower Lias*.

The *Lias* series, Nos. 3, 4, 5, fig. 5, consists of three belts of strata, running from *Lyme Regis* on the south-west, through the whole of England, to *Yorkshire* on the north-east: viz. the *Lower Lias* clay and Limestone, the *Middle Lias* or *Marlstone* strata, and the *Upper Lias* clay. The unequal hardness of the clays and limestones of the *Liassic* strata causes some of its members to stand out in distinct minor escarpments, often facing west and north-west. The *Marlstone* No. 4, forms the most prominent of these, and overlooks the broad meadow-land of *Lower Lias* clay that form much of the centre of England.

Conformable to and resting upon the *Lias* are the various members of the *Oolitic* series (6 to 11, fig. 5).¹ That portion termed the *Inferior Oolite* occupies the base, being succeeded by the *Great* or *Bath Oolite*,

¹ See also the 'Column of Formations,' p. 30.