

table shows the arrangement and nomenclature of the various subdivisions of the Silurian system:

		Feet.
Upper Silurian.	6. Ludlow group . approximate average thickness	1900
	5. Wenlock group .	1600
	4. Llandovery group	3000
	3. Bala and Caradoc group	6000
Lower Silurian.	2. Llandeilo group .	3000
	1. Arenig group .	4000
		19,500

a. Lower Silurian

The typical subdivisions in Wales and Shropshire will first be described, and afterward the development of the series in other parts of Britain.

1. *Arenig Group*.—These rocks consist of dark slates, shales, flags, and bands of sandstone. They are abundantly developed in the Arenig Mountain, where, as originally described by Sedgwick, they include masses of associated volcanic rocks. In their abundant suite of organic remains new genera of trilobites make their appearance (*Æglina*, *Barrandia*, *Calymene*, *Homalonotus*, *Illænopsis*, *Illænus*, *Phacops*, *Placoparia*, *Trinucleus*). Pteropods are represented by species of *Conularia* and *Theca*; brachiopods by *Lingula*, *Lingulella*, *Obolella*, *Discina*, *Siphonotreta*, and *Orthis*; lamellibranchs by *Palæarca* and *Ribeiria*; gasteropods by *Ophileta* and *Pleurotomaria*; heteropods by *Bellerophon* and *Maclurea*; and cephalopods by *Orthoceras*. But the most abundant organisms are the graptolites, of which no fewer than twenty genera have been found in the Arenig rocks of Britain. In the lower part of the group the genus *Tetragraptus* is especially characteristic, for it is not at present known to occur on any higher or lower horizon. Here lies the lowest Silurian graptolitic zone, that of *Tetragraptus bryonoides*. The genera *Loganograptus*, *Clonograptus*, *Schizograptus*, and *Dichograptus* are probably also peculiar to the same strata, as well as the species *Didymograptus extensus*, *D. pennatulus*, and the only known examples of *Retiograptus*. The upper part of the Arenig group (zone of *Didymograptus bifidus*) is especially marked by the presence of *Phyllograptus*, in association with forms of *Dichograptus* like *D. bifidus*. Species peculiar to it, besides the last-named, are *D. minutus* and some forms of *Diplograptus*, such as *Climacograptus confertus*.⁷²

Dr. Hicks has proposed to construct a separate group

⁷² Lapworth, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* vol. vi. 1880, p. 197.