case of Old Red Sandstone and New Red Sandstone. Certain terms betrayed the country of their origin, as did William Smith's English provincial names, like Gault, Kellaways Rock, and Lias.

The growth of the present stratigraphical nomenclature is thus eminently characteristic of the early rise and progress of the study of stratigraphy in Europe. Precisians decry this inartificial and haphazard language, and would like to introduce a brand new harmonious and systematic terminology. But the present arrangement has its historical interest and value, and so long as it is convenient and intelligible, I do not see that any advantage to science would accrue from its abolition. The method of naming formations or groups of strata after districts where they are typically developed has long been in use and has many advantages, but it has not supplanted all the original names, and I for my part hope that it never will.

With regard to what are now known as the Tertiary and Secondary formations, the Wernerian "Floetz," under which they were all comprised, soon sank into disuse.[1] But there was a long pause before the strata of older date were subjected to the same diligent study.

[1] One of the latest adaptations of the word was that of Keferstein in his *Tabellen über die vergleichende Geologie* (1825). He frankly threw over Wernerianism, but stuck to the pre-Wernerian Floetz, which he arranged in five subdivisions. (1) Youngest Floetz,—alluvium, etc.; (2) Tertiary Floetz,—marls, gypsum, etc., of Paris, Brown coal; (3) Younger Floetz, or Chalk rocks,—Chalk, Jura Limestone, Greensand; (4) Middle Floetz, or Muschelkalk—Lias, Keuper marl, Bunter sandstone, Zechstein; (5) Old Floetz, or Mountain Limestone—Coal, Mountain Limestone.