

being misunderstood alike by Sedgwick and Murchison. In maintaining the rights of his Cambrian system Sedgwick claimed that he had given to the equivalents of the Llandeilo flags a right place in his sections, and that Murchison, having misinterpreted the relations of his lower groups, was bound to yield them up to the Cambrian.

Against this view Murchison exclaimed, 'Whilst he leaves me the Caradoc sandstone, he would cut away from it the next underlying formation, or my own Llandeilo flags; though it is known to every one who has worked in these primeval rocks that *many of the same species of shells and trilobites characterise both the Caradoc and Llandeilo formations.*'¹

If hard blows were given by Sedgwick, it must be remembered that he, and not Murchison, was labouring under a sense of injustice. Murchison was the man in possession, who in all good faith had entered portions of a territory that would unquestionably have belonged to his fellow-labourer had the boundaries been properly 'pegged out,' and he was the first to make known somewhat fully the palæontological riches of his claim.

When to a sense of injustice there are added gout and dyspepsia, an acerbity of temper will almost infallibly result; and to these causes, in Sedgwick's case, must be attributed sundry outbursts of bitterness, which after all were spasmodic, and alien to his true nature. As remarked by Prof. Bonney, 'he always appeared to be not only truly noble in spirit, but also illuminated with that divine fire which distinguishes the man of genius from the man of talent.'²

On December 3, 1851, Sedgwick brought before the Society a paper 'On the Lower Palæozoic Rocks at the Base of the Carboniferous Chain between Ravenstonedale and Ribblesdale.'³ In the following February he read'an

¹ See references to *Edin. New Phil. Journ.* &c. on p. 183.

² *Nature*, July 10, 1890, p. 242; see also remarks in the 'Life of Sir C. J. F. Bunbury,' vol. ii. p. 295.

³ *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* viii. 1852, p. 35.