

Thus the matter stood when, at the death of De la Beche, Murchison was appointed director-general of the Geological Survey. Henceforth for many years his grouping was widely adopted in this country and also abroad; a grouping that was extended downwards until it included in the 'Primordial Silurian' the strata with *Paradoxides* at St. Davids, now known as Menevian.

Authorities, however, were not agreed on the nomenclature. Jukes, in 1862, adopted the grouping of Cambrian, Lower or Cambro-Silurian (Lingula Flags to Lower Llandovery), and Upper Silurian or Silurian Proper.¹ At a later date (1871) the Silurian grouping was restricted, and the Cambrian taken to include the divisions from the Harlech to the Tremadoc Beds; a grouping since generally adopted in this country. Nevertheless trouble still continued with regard to the use of the terms Lower Silurian and Upper Cambrian, by the followers of Murchison on the one hand and of Sedgwick on the other.

With the view of cutting the Gordian knot and of putting an end to 'the interminable discussion' by framing a 'scheme of classification which, while it systematises the known facts, holds the balance true with reference to the opposing claims of the two great pioneers' in the study of the Lower Palæozoic strata, Professor Charles Lapworth, in 1879, proposed the term Ordovician, as equivalent to Lower Silurian or Cambro-Silurian, and to include the strata from Arenig to Bala and Caradoc.² The results of his brilliant researches on the older rocks of the Southern Uplands of Scotland, whereby he first mastered the stratigraphy of the Moffat region, were communicated to the Society in November 1877; they established his reputation, and gave him title to suggest a *via media*, and to extinguish if possible a controversy about terms that had extended over a period of forty years.

¹ Student's 'Manual of Geology,' 1862; see also his Address, 1854, *Journ. Geol. Soc. Dublin*, vol. vi. pp. 88, 89.

² *Geol. Mag.* 1879, pp. 13, 14. There is now a disposition among some geologists to group the Tremadoc Beds with the Ordovician.