

enumerated as if lying in regular order, one beneath the other ; but in nature no such series has ever been observed. A few groups only occur in a serial order, and these but rarely in their original position. The strata are broken up, dislocated, and thrown into every degree of inclination, from the horizontal to the perpendicular ; sometimes they are completely retroverted, the newest strata underlying those upon which they were originally deposited. The order of succession has, therefore, been ascertained by careful observation of the relative position of different members of the series in different countries ; and from an immense accumulation of facts collected by able observers from all parts of the globe. Diagrams in illustration of this table are given in *Wond.* plates vii. viii. ix. ; and in *Ly.* of the different groups in the several chapters devoted to them. Dr. Buckland's Treatise contains a comprehensive illustration, drawn by Mr. Webster (*Bd.* Vol. II. frontispiece).