

of the beds (as the well-known Dudley limestone) are composed of shells, corals, crinoidea, and those peculiar crustaceans termed *trilobites*, held together by calcareous cement. No vegetable remains, except a few traces of fuci, have been found in Britain below the Old Red sandstone.*

XI. The CAMBRIAN or SCHISTOSE SYSTEM. (*Wond.* p. 698.) Consists principally of a largely developed series of slate rocks, and conglomerates, with a few shells and corals.

Subdivisions.—*Plynlymmon rocks.*—Slates, with beds of conglomerates. Thickness, several thousand yards.

Bala limestone.—Dark limestone, associated with slate, containing a few species of shells and corals.

Snowdon rocks.—Slates, fine-grained, and of various shades of purple, blue, and green. Fine and coarse conglomerates. A few organic remains. Thickness, probably several thousand yards.

Obs.—The upper dark-coloured schists contain a few corals and fuci; in the slate of Snowdon four or five species of shells have been discovered; and with these, all traces of organic remains disappear. The fineness of grain, general aspect, hardness, and texture of these rocks, are well known, from the

* Mr. Murchison's splendid work "The Silurian System," contains admirable figures of all the organic remains.