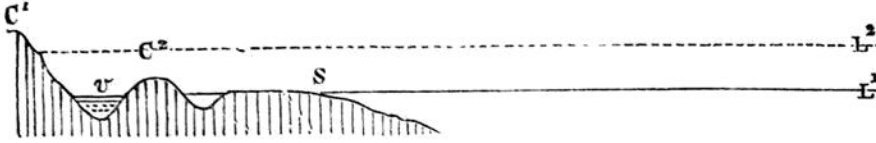


rates characteristic of the period immediately following the Palichthyan age. This old shore is now almost 1200 feet above the modern sea.



This diagram shows the supposed first appearance of the *land* which is now Cumbria, C¹; the ridge of Casterton Fell, C²; the valley of the Lune, *v*, excavated in Silurian strata, and filled with old red conglomerates; and the old (levelled) shore, S; and the sea-level, L¹. As mentioned in the next paragraph, the land was depressed again, so as to be covered in great part by water, whose relative level may be represented by the line L². Then were deposited Mountain Limestone, Millstone Grit, and Coal-measures.

MEGALICHTHYAN PERIOD.—The mountains already indicated not far to the west of Yorkshire, were *depressed* again, and with them the shore, which had been formed on the Yorkshire Silurians—so as to receive a thick deposit of mountain limestone, the fruit of waters charged with a salt of lime, and innumerable shells and corals to which this salt yielded the materials for their stony fabrics. As yet the area on which we are intent was Sea—but in many beds of sandstone, shale and coal which alternate with the mountain limestone, we see evidence of currents drifting spoils from *neighbouring lands*; probably from the upraised Cumbrian Alps, and other high ground farther west and farther north; for then the Highlands of North Britain might perhaps be continuous to the Fells of Norway.

This drift of materials from land is the more manifest, the farther we go to the north. Under Ingleborough the Scar limestone contains almost none of them; when we reach the base of Cross Fell it is broken up into many beds by these interpolations. This drift did not in that period reach so far south as Ingleborough; and Derbyshire, Flintshire, and the south of England and Wales, are equally free from any traces of it.