Megalodon is characteristic. Of the 13 genera of Gasteropoda, 9 are Silurian, but of 47 species, all are distinct. The most prevalent forms belong to the genera Euomphalus (6), Loxonema (8), Macrocheilus (7), Murchisonia (5) (there are 22 in the Silurian rocks), and Pleurotomaria 8. There are 5 species of Bellerophon, and 52 species of Cephalopoda, all distinct from Silurian species. Of 6 Devonian genera, only Orthoceras, Poterioceras, and Cyrtoceras are Silurian. The most prevalent species belong to the genera Clymenia (11), Cyrtoceras (13), Goniatites (10), this being their first appearance in the British strata, and Orthoceras (15), (there being 67 known species of this genus in the Silurian rocks).

It is stated that only about 10 per cent. of Upper Silurian fossils pass into the marine Lower Devonian strata. These two formations in England are, however, not found in contact, though they occur commonly enough in the regular order of succession on the Continent and in North America. About 10 per cent. of Lower Devonian fossils pass into the Middle Devonian, and about the same percentage from the Middle into the Upper. If this be true there may possibly be undiscovered unconformities between the subdivisions.

The Old Red Sandstone, as distinct from the Devonian rocks, is undoubtedly intermediate in age to the uppermost Silurian and the lowest Carboniferous strata. It is sometimes difficult to determine its precise limits either at its base or its top. It first received its name in contradistinction to the New Red Sandstone, the former occurring below, and the latter above the Carboniferous strata.

A vast triangular tract of Old Red Sandstone lies between the west coast of South Pembrokeshire, Bristol