

under that term, formations which may contain no chalk; and we may describe as Silurian, a series of strata utterly unlike in lithological characters to the formations in the typical Silurian country. In using these terms, we unconsciously adopt the idea of relative date. Hence such a word as Chalk, or Cretaceous, does not so much suggest to the geologist the group of strata so called, as the interval of geological history which these strata represent. He speaks of the Cretaceous, Jurassic, and Cambrian periods, and of the Cretaceous fauna, the Jurassic flora, the Cambrian trilobites, as if these adjectives denoted simply epochs of geological time.

The Geological Record is classified into five main divisions: (1) Pre-Cambrian, also called Archæan, Azoic (lifeless), Eozoic (dawn of life) or Proterozoic (earliest life); (2) Palæozoic (ancient life) or Primary; (3) Mesozoic (middle life) or Secondary; (4) Cainozoic (recent life) or Tertiary, and (5) Post-Tertiary or Quaternary. The Tertiary and Post-Tertiary are sometimes grouped together as Neozoic (new life). These divisions are further ranged in systems, each system in series, sections, or formations, each formation in groups or stages, and each group in single zones or horizons.⁵ The accompanying generalized table (pp. 1131-1134) exhibits the sequence of the chief subdivisions.

⁵ On the classification of the Geological Record see Dr. W. T. Blanford, *Geol. Mag.* 1884. Prof. Renevier, *Bull. Soc. Vaud.* xiii. p. 229; *Arch. Sci. Phys. Nat.* xii. 1884, p. 297.