

essay 'On the Classification and Nomenclature of the Lower Palæozoic Rocks of England and Wales.' In this he gave a full account of his researches on the older rocks of the Lake District and North Wales, and an historical retrospect of attempts to unite the Cambrian and Silurian rocks in a continuous section. He moreover claimed to have established a congruous nomenclature between the Welsh and Cumbrian mountains; a matter that is apt to be overlooked in regard to the rights of his Cambrian system.

The personal question he regarded as 'indeed a paltry matter; but it does involve a very important principle.'

He accepted 'the interpretation of the structure of Wales as given in the great map, published under the direction of Sir Henry de la Beche, which is one of the noblest works of its kind that has appeared since geology was a science. In this map we have the superficial delineation of the true system of Siluria perfectly represented in its most minute details; and the authors have, for the first time, laid down the range of the Caradoc group in a manner that is intelligible and complete. But they have given the name "Lower Silurian" to all the vast series of rocks in Wales, which are below the Caradoc sandstone. I do not believe that their authority, great as it is, can permanently establish a name that is geographically incongruous and historically unjust.'

He claimed 'the right of naming the Cambrian groups, because I flinched not from their difficulties, made out their general structure, collected their fossils, and first comprehended their respective relations to the groups above them and below them, in the great and complicated palæozoic sections of North Wales.'¹

Despite the challenge uttered many years later by Sedgwick, that the Council should re-peruse his paper, and produce a single paragraph or sentence that was unfit for him to write or for the Council to read,² it may be candidly stated that he did introduce some passages that

¹ *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* viii. pp. 136-168.

Preface to 'Catalogue of Cambrian and Silurian Fossils,' p. xxix.