

and much improved edition of this excellent Manual (1872), Prof. Giekie, the director of the Geological Survey of Scotland has substituted the nomenclature of Murchison; with the important exception, however, that he follows Hicks and Salter in separating the Menevian from the Lingula-flags, and uniting it with the underlying Harlech rocks (as has been done in the table on page 32), giving to the two the name of Cambrian [loc. cit., pages 526-529], and thus, on good paleontological grounds, extending this name above the horizon admitted by Murchison. Barrande, on the contrary, in his recent essay on trilobites (1871, page 250), makes the Silurian to include not only the Lingula-flags proper (Maentwrog and Dolgelly), but the Menevian, and even a great part of the Harlech rocks themselves (the Cambrian of Murchison and the Geological Survey), for the reason that the primordial fauna has now been shown by Hicks to extend towards their base. This, although consistent with Barrande's previous views as to the extension of the name Silurian, is a still greater violation of historic truth. By thus making the Silurian system of Murchison to include successively the Upper Cambrian and the Middle Cambrian of Sedgwick, and finally his Lower Cambrian, (the Cambrian system of Murchison himself,) we seem to have arrived at a *reductio ad absurdum* of the Silurian nomenclature; and we may apply to Siluria, as Sedgwick has already done, the apt quotation once used by Conybeare, with reference to the Graywacke of the older geologists, which it replaces; "*est Jupiter quodcumque vides.*"

It would be unjust to conclude this historical sketch of the names Cambrian and Silurian in Geology, without a passing tribute to the venerable Sedgwick, who to-day, at the age of eighty-seven years, still retains unimpaired his great powers of mind, and his interest in the progress of geological science. The labors of his successors in the study of British geology, up to the present time, have only served to confirm the exactitude of his early stratigraphical determinations; and the last results of investigations on both continents unite in showing that in the Cambrian series, as defined by him more than a generation since, he laid, on a sure foundation, the bases of paleozoic geology.

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