

- CALCEDONY.** A siliceous simple mineral, uncrystallized. Agates are partly composed of calcedony.
- CARBON.** An undecomposed inflammable substance, one of the simple elementary bodies. Charcoal is almost entirely composed of it. *Etym.*, *carbo*, coal.
- CARBONATE OF LIME.** Lime combines with great avidity with carbonic acid, a gaseous acid only obtained fluid when united with water,—and all combinations of it with other substances are called *Carbonates*. All limestones are carbonates of lime, and quicklime is obtained by driving off the carbonic acid by heat.
- CARBONATED SPRINGS.** Springs of water, containing carbonic acid gas. They are very common, especially in volcanic countries; and sometimes contain so much gas, that if a little sugar be thrown into the water it effervesces like soda-water.
- CARBONIC ACID GAS.** A natural gas which often issues from the ground, especially in volcanic countries. *Etym.*, *carbo*, coal; because the gas is obtained by the slow burning of charcoal.
- CARBONIFEROUS.** A term usually applied, in a technical sense, to an ancient group of secondary strata; but any bed containing coal may be said to be carboniferous. *Etym.*, *carbo*, coal, and *fero*, to bear.
- CATACLYSM.** A deluge. *Etym.*, *κατακλυζω*, *catacluzo*, to deluge.
- CEPHALOPODA.** A class of molluscous animals, having their organs of motion arranged round their head. *Etym.*, *κεφαλη*, *cephale*, head, and *ποδα*, *poda*, feet.
- CETACEA.** An order of vertebrated mammiferous animals inhabiting the sea. The whale, dolphin, and narwal are examples. *Etym.*, *cete*, whale.
- CHALK.** A white earthy limestone, the uppermost of the secondary series of strata.
- CHERT.** A siliceous mineral, nearly allied to calcedony and flint, but less homogeneous and simple in texture. A gradual passage from chert to limestone is not uncommon.
- CHLORITIC SAND.** Sand coloured green by an admixture of the simple mineral chlorite. *Etym.*, *χλωρος*, *chloros*, green.
- CLEAVAGE.** Certain rocks, usually called Slate-rocks, may be cleaved into an indefinite number of thin laminæ which are parallel to each other, but which are generally not parallel to the planes of the true strata or layers of deposition. The planes of cleavage, therefore, are distinguishable from those of stratification.
- CLINKSTONE,** called also phonolite, a felspathic rock of the trap family, usually fissile. It is sonorous when struck with a hammer, whence its name.
- COAL FORMATION.** This term is generally understood to mean the same as the Coal Measures, or Carboniferous group.
- COLEOPTERA.** An order of insects (Beetles) which have four wings, the upper pair being crustaceous and forming a shield. *Etym.*, *κολεος*, *coleos*, a sheath, and *πτερον*, *pteron*, a wing.
- CONFORMABLE.** When the planes of one set of strata are generally parallel to those of another set which are in contact they are said to be conformable. Thus

Fig. 98.



the set *a, b*, Fig. 98. rest conformably on the inferior set *c, d*; but *c, d* rest unconformably on *E*.

- CONGENERS.** Species which belong to the same genus.
- CONGLOMERATE, OR PUDDINGSTONE.** Rounded water-worn fragments of rock or pebbles, cemented together by another mineral substance, which may be of a siliceous, calcareous, or argillaceous nature. *Etym.*, *con*, together, *glomero*, to heap.
- CONIFERÆ.** An order of plants which, like the fir and pine, bear cones or tops in which the seeds are contained. *Etym.*, *conos*, cone, and *fero*, to bear.
- COSMOGONY, COSMOLOGY.** Words synonymous in meaning, applied to speculations respecting the first origin or mode of creation of the earth. *Etym.*, *κοσμος*, *hosmos*, the world, and *γονη*, *gonee*, generation, or *λογος*, *logos*, discourse.
- CRAG.** A provincial name in Norfolk and Suffolk for certain tertiary deposits