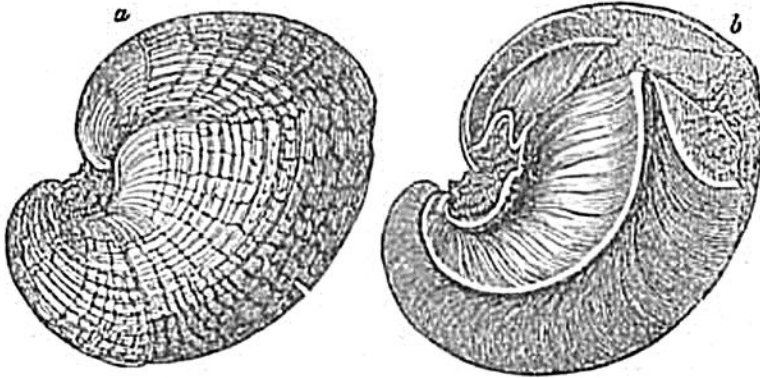


2. *Aymestry limestone*.—The next group is a subcrystalline and argillaceous limestone, which is in some places 50 feet thick, and distinguished around Aymestry by the abundance of *Pentamerus Knightii*, Sow. (fig. 572), also found in the Lower Ludlow. This genus of brachi-

Fig. 572.



Pentamerus Knightii, Sow. Aymestry. Half nat. size.
 a. View of both valves united.
 b. Longitudinal section through both valves, showing the central plates & septa.

opoda was first found in Silurian strata, and is exclusively a paleozoic form. The name was derived from *πεντε*, *pente*, five, and *μερος*, *meros*, a part, because both valves are divided by a central septum, making four chambers, and in one valve the septum itself contains a small chamber, making five. The size of these septa is enormous compared with those of any other brachiopod shell; and they must nearly have divided the animal into two equal halves; but they are, nevertheless, of the same nature as the septa or plates which are found in the interior of *Spirifer*, *Terebratula*, and many other shells of this order. Messrs. Murchison and De Verneuil discovered this species dispersed in myriads through a white limestone of Upper Silurian age, on the banks of the Is, on the eastern flank of the Urals in Russia, and a similar species is frequent in Sweden.

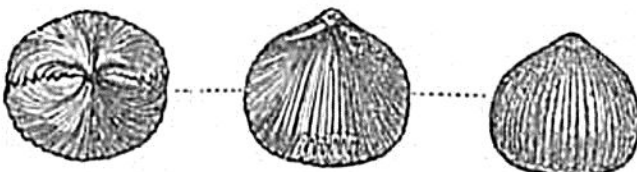
Fig. 573.



Lingula Lewisii,
 J. Sow.
 Abberley Hills.

Three other abundant shells in the Aymestry limestone are, 1st, *Lingula Lewisii* (fig. 573); 2d, *Rhynchonella Wilsoni*, Sow. (fig. 574), which is also common to the Lower Ludlow and Wenlock limestone; 3d, *Atrypa reticularis*, Lin. (fig. 575), which has a very wide range, being found in every part of the Silurian system, even in the upper portion of the Llandeilo flags.

Fig. 574.



Rhynchonella (Terebratula) Wilsoni, Sow. Aymestry.