Channel, the south and south-eastern borders of the Silurian rocks of Caermarthenshire, Breconshire, Radnorshire, and Shropshire, and the long line of Carboniferous, Silurian, and New Red Marl strata that runs from Colebrook Dale to the Severn, east of Dean Forest. Fancy in your 'mind's eye' the Carboniferous rocks of the great South Wales Coalfield, and of Dean Forest, to be stripped away, and the whole of the region mentioned, of 120 by 90 miles in length and breadth, would consist entirely of Old Red Sandstone. The lower part is chiefly composed of beds of red marl and sandstone, with cornstones; and the upper part contains strata of sandstone and conglomerate, forming the Beacons of Brecon, 2,860 feet high, these being the loftiest mountains in South Wales.

Cornstones are impure concretionary limestones, often imbedded in marl. In these, at the base of the series, near Ludlow, are species of Pterygotus and Pterichthys, and higher up, of Onchus and Cephalaspis, thus correlating them by fossils to the Old Red Sandstone of Scotland (fig. 26). Along the border of this formation, where the uppermost Silurian strata join the Old Red Sandstone, there is a gradual passage both palæontologically and in the colour and texture of the strata. The Eurypteri and Pterygoti chiefly belong to these passage-beds, and in the same strata at the very base of the Old Red strata, in which there are no mollusca, are species of fish of the genera Auchenaspis, Onchus (?), Pteraspis, Cephalaspis, and Plectrodus. The Silurian marine mollusca, in fact, quickly disappear where the beds begin to get red in colour, notwithstanding the perfect conformity of the two sets of strata in England and the borders of Wales, as, for example, in the neighbourhood of Ludlow. At Kington and