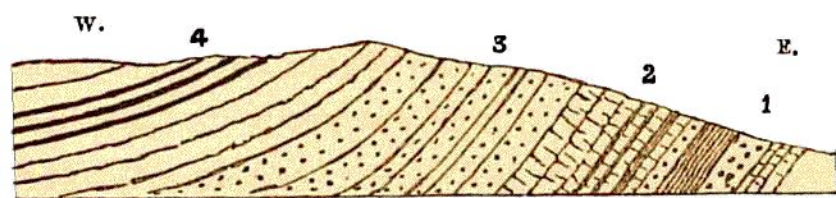


(sometimes the very same beds) gradually change from so-called bituminous to anthracitic varieties. It is remarkable that anthracite usually occurs in coal-fields the strata of which have been much disturbed and contorted, as, for instance, in the mountains of Pennsylvania. Anthracite is simply a metamorphic variety of coal; and in Pembrokeshire, where the coals are most anthracitic, the strata have been violently contorted. There is a connection between the heat that produced metamorphism and the lateral pressure that produced contortion, for pressure with movement is convertible into heat. A line of disturbance passes from the banks of the Wye south of Builth, through the north part of the coal-field south of Llandeilo, and from thence westward into Pembrokeshire, where masses of igneous rocks appear in contact with the coal-field. In connection with this, it may be that the rocks of the coal-field remained a long time highly heated, and so, by a species of distillation, deep under ground, the bituminous were converted into anthracite coals.

FIG. 27.



- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Old Red Sandstone. | |
| 2. Carboniferous Limestone. | } Carboniferous series. |
| 3. Millstone Grit. | |
| 4. Coal measures with beds of coal. | |

Dean Forest may be looked on as an outlier of the South Wales coal-field. Fig. 27 may be supposed to represent the arrangement of the strata on the east side of this very perfect basin. The limestone is about 700