Blackgate, part of Newcastle Castle. The history of Newcastle upon Tyne dates back almost 2,000 years, during which it has been controlled by the Romans, the Angles and the Norsemen amongst others. Originally known by its Roman name Pons Aelius, the name "Newcastle" has been used since the Norman conquest of England. During the civil war between Stephen and Matilda, David 1st of Scotland and his son were granted Cumbria and Northumberland respectively, so that for a period from 1139 to 1157, Newcastle was effectively in Scottish hands. It is believed that during this period, King David may have built the church of St Andrew and the Benedictine nunnery in Newcastle. The city of Newcastle Upon Tyne was founded at the lowest place the Tyne could be easily crossed. In 1080 the Normans built a wooden fort to safeguard the crossing. They also erected a wooden bridge. (The 'new castle' was rebuilt in stone in the 12th century). Soon a little town grew up in the shadow of the new castle and was named after it. Fairs were like markets but they were held only once a year and they would attract buyers from all over Northumberland and Durham. Furthermore in the late 13th century walls were built around Newcastle - a sign of its growing importance. There were 7 main gates and 19 towers. The church was very important and powerful in the Middle Ages. GB Historical GIS / University of Portsmouth, History of Newcastle upon Tyne in Northumberland | Map and description, A Vision of Britain through Time. URL: http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/place/624. Date accessed: 25th May 2019. Not where you were looking for? Click here for more detailed advice on finding places within A Vision of Britain through Time, and maybe some references to other places called "Newcastle upon Tyne". To buy historical maps of Newcastle upon Tyne, click here!
The Coal Measures which overlie the Millstone Grit, occupy, in Northumberland, the triangular area having the Tyne as a base line 14 miles in length; its eastern side is the coast, from the mouth of the Coquet to Tynemouth, and its western side a wavy line from the Coquet mouth to near Wylam on the Tyne. From this base line they extend into the central portion of the county of Durham; and by a fault called the Stublick Dike they are prolonged, in a narrow band up the valley of the Tyne to the extremity of the county of Northumberland, and into Cumberland, a distance of 27 miles.