

high ridges and cones, of which Stack is a diminished representative, and sank into depressions now occupied by thick masses of sandstone. But I have lately observed that not only do these larger features pass under the sandstone, but that the minor domes and bosses of gneiss do so likewise. On both sides of Loch Torridon, for example, the hummocky outlines of the gneiss can be seen emerging from under the overlying sandstones (Fig. 21). On the side west of Loch Assynt similar junctions are visible. But some of the most impressive sections occur in the neighbourhood of Gairloch. Little more than a mile to the north of the church the road to Poolewe descends into a short valley surrounded with gneiss hills. From the top of the descent the eye is at once arrested by a flat-topped hill standing in the middle of the valley at its upper end, and suggesting some kind of fortification: so different from the surrounding hummocky declivities of gneiss is its level grassy top, flanked by wall-like cliffs rising upon a glacis-slope of *débris* and herbage (Fig. 22). Closer examination shows that the little eminence is capped with a coarse reddish breccia made up of fragments from the surrounding gneiss. The stones in this deposit are for the most part perfectly angular, and are sometimes stuck on end in the mass. They underwent but little re-arrangement after they were thrown down, though occasional lenticular seams of red sandstone running through the rock serve to prove that it is lying as a flat cake on the gneiss. My friend Mr. Norman Lockyer accompanied me in the examination of this hill. We searched long for a striated stone among the component materials of the breccia, but the matrix was too firm to allow us to bare and extract any of the pebbles or boulders. We traced, however, the characteristic rounded bossy surface of the gneiss until it passed under the breccia, and were