

the outlook for evidence as to the thickness of the ice, which might be revealed by the height at which either transported blocks had been stranded or a polished and striated surface had been left upon the rocks of the valley. We were fortunate in meeting with evidence of both kinds.

I shall not soon forget my astonishment on entering the second cañon. We had made our first camp someway farther down, and before striking the tent in the morning had mounted the hills on the left side and observed how

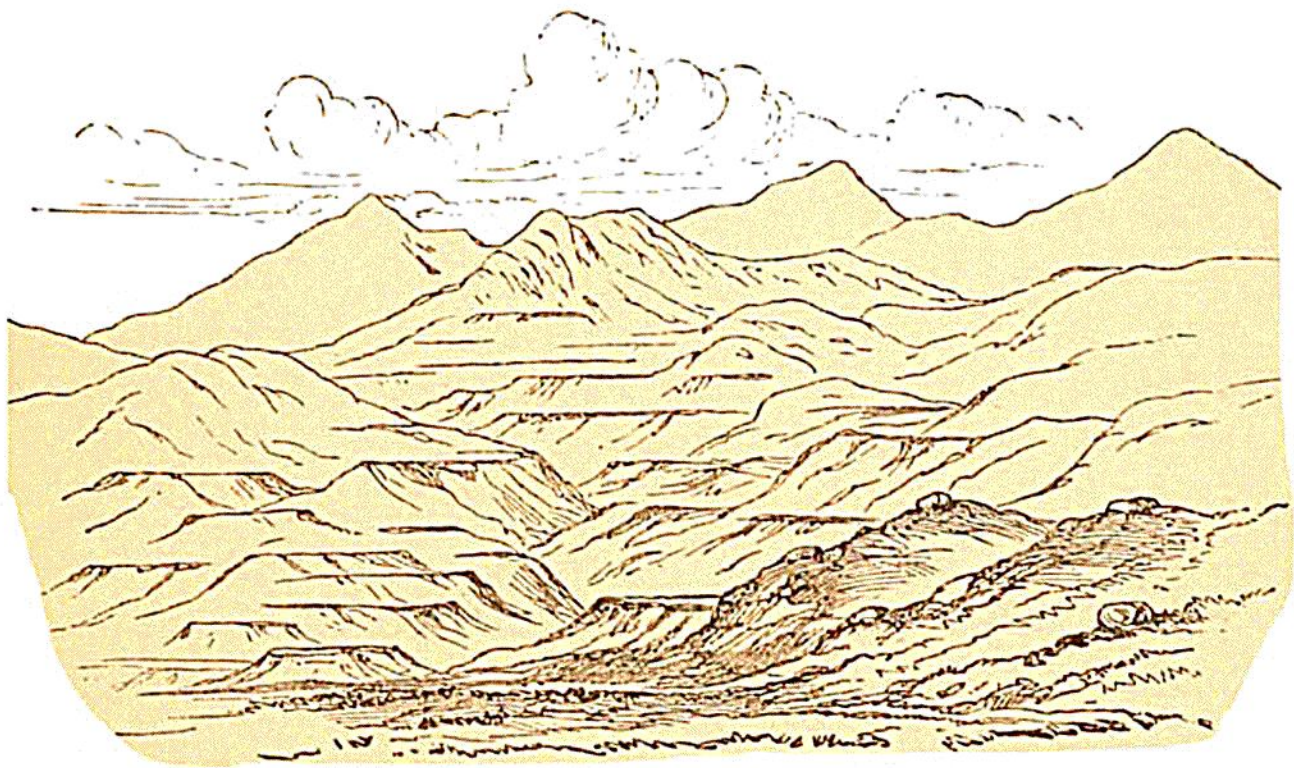


Fig. 27.—Terraces below the second cañon of the Yellowstone.

the detritus (glacial detritus, as we believed it to be) had been re-arranged and spread out into terraces (Fig. 27), either by the river when at a much higher level than that at which it now flows, or by a lake which evidently once filled up the broad expansion of the valley between the two lowest cañons. We were prepared, therefore, for the discovery of still more striking proof of the power and magnitude of the old glaciers, but never anticipated that so