

deeper and deeper, until in perhaps not more than six or eight years it forms a yawning chasm ten or fifteen feet deep (Fig. 5).

Following the track of the stream down the hill, we find that it eventually cuts into the solid underlying rock wherein it has gradually hollowed out a little gully, in the bottom of which it flows. At the foot of the steep hillside, it encounters a flat meadow, and there, its current being checked and its

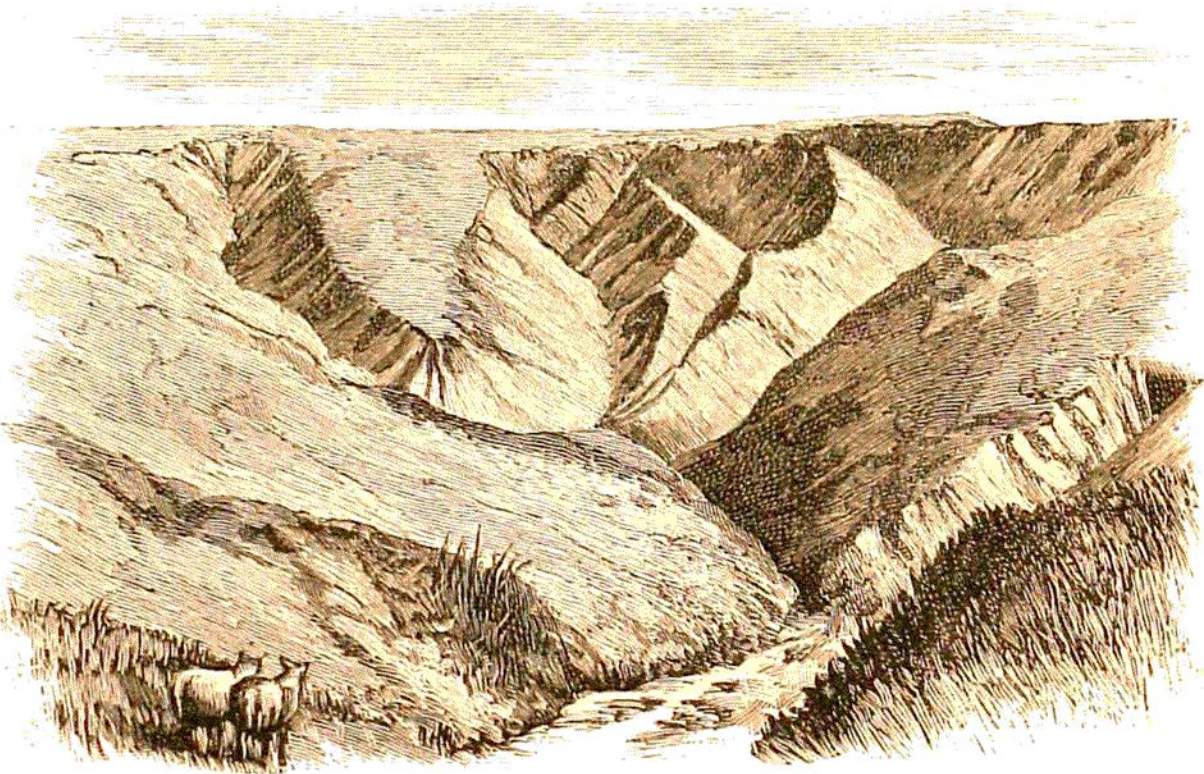


FIG. 5.—Gullies and Ravines at the head of Glenkip Burn, Leadhills.

carrying power being consequently lessened, it drops the burden of detritus which it has swept down in its bed. These materials are spread out in fan-shape on the plain, and in more mountainous districts form a striking part of the scenery of the valleys. Conspicuous examples may be seen, for instance, in the Pass of Drumouchter, through which the Highland Railway runs across the watershed of the country. There, on the flanks of the two mountains that face each