

main tolerably persistent. As illustrations of the north-east and south-west, or longitudinal valleys, reference may be made to the Great Glen, Lochs Carron, Shiel, Linnhe, Fyne, Awe, and to the valleys of the Findhorn, Spey, and Loch Tay. The north-west and south-east, or transverse valleys, are conspicuously seen in Sutherland, Ross, Inverness, and Argyll, and along the southern margin of the Highlands from the coast of Kincardineshire to the Clyde.

As I have stated above, the transverse depressions would inevitably be those chosen by the drainage that flowed off from the main axis of the country or of each region. As the general trend of the geological structure-lines of the Highlands runs from south-west to north-east, and as that would most probably be the direction of any original hollows of the land, longitudinal valleys would naturally be formed in that direction, and would receive and carry seaward the waters of the transverse valleys draining into them. In the longitudinal series, the flow of water is guided by geological structure, either originally manifested at the surface or revealed during the progressive degradation of the land. Sometimes the determining cause of the direction of erosion has been a line of dislocation. Of this relation the most remarkable example in Britain is supplied by the Great Glen. This singularly straight depression coincides with a line of fracture which appears to be of great geological antiquity, and to have been again and again subjected to disturbance and displacement. More frequently, the longitudinal valleys have had their position defined by the plications of the rocks, which maintain a general north-east and south-west trend. In the other or transverse class of valleys, the line of direction is independent of geological structure, and crosses irregularly the strike of the rocks, according to the readiest