

Galloway or Carrick, and thence across the moorlands that stretch north-eastward to the North Sea, without observing that this long chain of high grounds divides itself naturally into two not very unequal portions, each of which, while retaining the same family likeness, possesses, nevertheless, certain individual and distinguishing features of its own. The valley of the Nith passes completely across the region, and its course serves as an approximate boundary line between the two districts. This may be partly seen, even from a glance at the map. The tracts that lie between the Nith and St. Patrick's Channel will be observed to be broken up into irregular groups of hills dotted over with lakes and tarns, but traversed by few large streams. The country between Nithsdale and St. Abb's Head, on the other hand, will be found to consist of long-connected chains of heights, nearly destitute of lakes, but with numerous confluent valleys, whose united waters, after a course of many miles, enter the sea as important rivers—the Clyde, Tweed, Esk, and Annan.

The north-eastern half of the Silurian belt, from Nithsdale to the North Sea, may be regarded as a wide undulating table-land, cut into coalescing ridges by a set of valleys which are usually narrow and deep. It has no determinate system of hill-ranges, the grouping of its eminences seeming, in most cases, to have been defined by the circumstances which aided or retarded the excavation of the intervening hollows. Thus its seaward portion, forming the heights of Lammermuir, when seen from the plains of East Lothian, has a long undulating summit, with an average level of 1500 or 1600 feet above the sea, and rises abruptly, with a steep bare slope, high above the rich champign country that stretches to the shore. Standing on the north-western verge of these heights, on such an eminence for instance as Lammer Law