

of Skye. Among the more interesting and instructive excursions that can be made from it the following, may be recommended :—

(1.) The Storr Rock—A series of pinnacles and crags which, owing to landslips caused by the decay of the softer underlying Jurassic strata, have been split off from the main mass of the plateau-basalts [37]. If the traveller is a good pedestrian he should continue the walk northwards by the top of the cliff to Stenscholl and Quiraing.

(2.) Quiraing—another and more striking example of the way in which the edge of the escarpment of the plateau-basalt has been broken up by the formation of landslips.

(3.) Dunvegan and Loch Bracadale. The basalt precipices of Dunvegan Head are among the loftiest in Great Britain. The two remarkable hills known as M'Leod's Tables are conspicuous objects all over the north of Skye [Fig. 32]. The coast scenery at the mouth of Loch Bracadale is well worthy of being explored by boat [Fig. 16].

(4.) Sligachan and the Coolins. From Sligachan Inn a walk or ride up the Glen will allow the visitor to ascend into one of the wildest of the corries (Hart o' Corry) in the bleak gabbro of the Coolins, and will afford him the most impressive views of the extraordinary contrast between the forms assumed by that rock and those of the granitoid mass that forms the cones on the east side of the Glen. Loch Coruisk can easily be reached by this route. If time is available, one of the most striking excursions from Sligachan is over the col that leads to Loch Brittle and round into the gloomy Corry-na-Creiche at the back of Scur-na-Gilleann.

The sail from Portree to Gareloch enables the traveller to compare the topography of the Cambrian (Torridon) sandstone [113] with that of the Archæan gneiss [111]. The central portion of Raasay consists of the former rock, easily distinguishable by its red tint and its bedding. The northern and lowest section of the island is formed of the old gneiss, and shows its characteristic bare bossy surface. Rona Island is a prolongation of the same ancient gneiss. A view is now obtained up Loch Torridon. On either side of that singularly picturesque fjord the red sandstone mounts into lofty pyramidal hills, and if the day be clear the peaks beyond the far head of the loch will be seen with their scalps of white quartzite