

ning water. Among the Alps, during day in summer, much ice is melted, and the water courses over the glaciers in brooks which, as they reach the crevasses, tumble down in rushing waterfalls, and are lost in the depths of the ice. Directed, however, by the form of the ice-passage against the rocky floor of the valley, the water descends at a particular spot, carrying with it the sand, mud, and stones

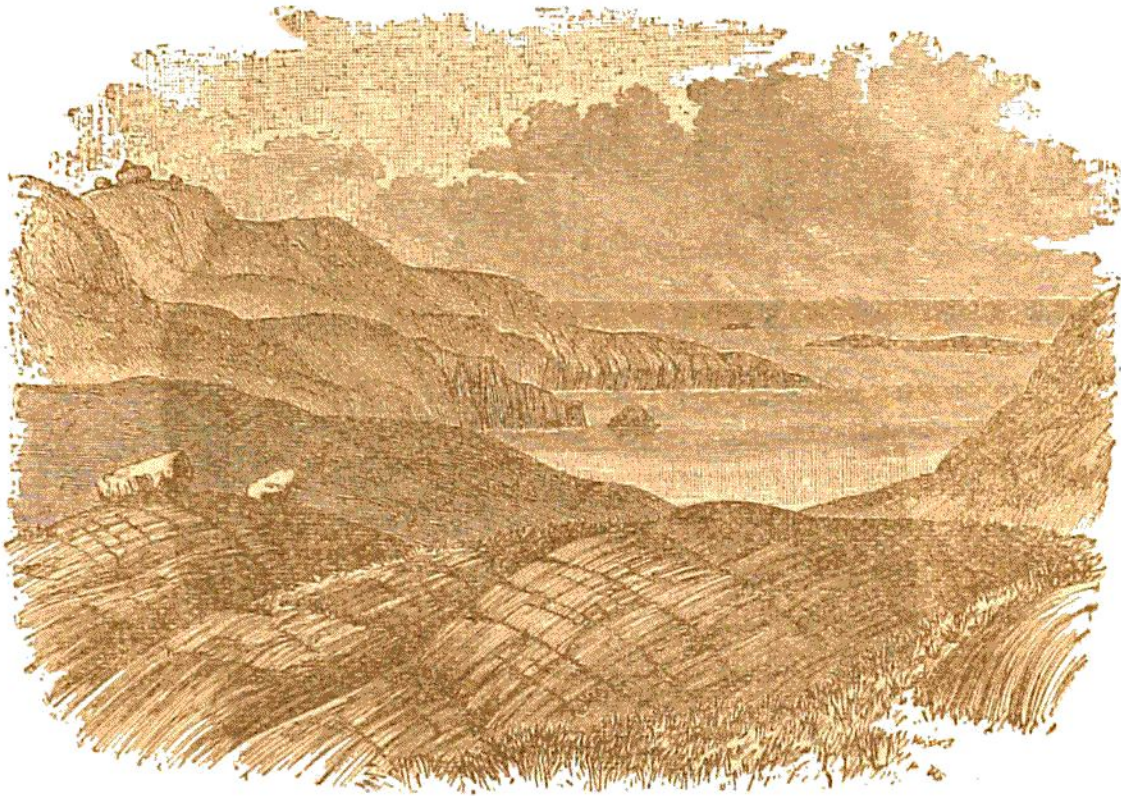


Fig. 158.—Ice-worn surface of rock, showing Polish, Striæ, Groovings, and Erratics, Sutherland.

which it may have swept away from the surface of the glacier. By means of these materials it erodes deep pot-holes (moulins) in the solid rock, in which the rounded detritus is left as the crevasse closes up or moves down the valley. On the ice-worn surface of Norway, singular cavities of this kind, known as “giants’ kettles” or “caldrons” (Riesentopfe, Riesenkessel, Fig. 159), exist in great numbers.²⁴¹

²⁴¹ S. A. Sexe, Universit. Program. Christiania, 1874. Brögger and Reusch, Q. J. Geol. Soc. xxx. 750.