

noble pedestal, on which some colossal statue, vastly greater than that of Rhodes, might be advantageously placed, to form, like the memory of some great man in the history of a people, the central object of the landscape; and when I first looked upon its fine proportions, relieved against the bright amber-tinted clouds of a gorgeous sunset, and marked how its summit seemed, according to the poet, "to kiss the sky," I felt I could have understood, had it been told that some hoary seer had, in ancient times, ascended from its top into the heavens, how the legend had originated.

On this quartz bed the stratified limestone rests, with its associated marbles. Less bold in its features than the other rocks of the district, apparently because of a texture less suited to resist the denuding and weathering influences, we find its place marked, amid the brown heaths which lie over the Red Sandstones, or amid the stony nakedness of the quartz-rock regions, by the rich green of the verdure which covers it. All the more valuable farms of Assynt lie on the limestone. At one point, however, on the farm of Stronchrubie, in the immediate neighborhood of Inch-na-damph, it presents a magnificent range of precipices, a full mile in length by about three hundred feet in height, which rises immediately above the road, and forms at this point the most striking feature in the prospect. The steep face of the range is barred horizontally by the strata, black, red, and gray, and relieved and softened by the bright green verdure that waves over its shelves and ledges, and bristles from every recess and cranny. As we pass on to the west, the precipitous range flattens into a gentle slope, still, however, lined longitudinally by the projecting strata, which, easier of access than in the precipices, can here be examined in detail. Though chiefly calcareous, the rock presents, from its decidedly flaggy structure, so much the appearance of Caithness flagstone (which, however, in some of its