

of Mull ; while in the inner Hebrides, it forms, with the Oolite, though greatly overflowed by trap, the base of the larger part of the island of Mull, of two of the Small Isles, Eigg and Muck, of Raasay and Scalpa, and of large tracts of the eastern and northern half of Skye. At Broadford, in the latter island, the Lias forms the whole of the rich level islet of Pabba, which, lying as at anchor in its quiet bay, reminds one, from its prevailing colour and form, of one of the low, green steamboats of the Clyde. Opposite Pabba, the Liassic deposit sweeps across the mainland of Skye from sea to sea, along a flat valley some two or three miles wide ; but while the minute Liassic islet resembles, from the softness of its outline, an islet of England set down in a hill-enclosed bay of the Scottish Highlands, there is nothing English in the scenic character of the Liassic valley. It is a brown and sombre expanse of marsh and moor, studded by blue dreary lochans, interesting, however, to the botanist as habitats of the rare *Eriocaulon septangulare*. The waste is haunted, too, say the Highlanders, by Ludag, a malignant goblin, not more known elsewhere in Europe than the rare plant that in the last age used to be seen at dusk hopping with immense hops on its one leg,—for, unlike every other denizen of the supernatural world, it is not furnished with two,—and that, enveloped in rags, and with fierce misery in its hollow eye, has dealt heavy blows, it is said, on the cheeks of benighted travellers. Certainly a more appropriate spectre could scarce be summoned to walk at nights over the entombed remains of the old monsters of the Lias than one-legged Ludag, the goblin of the wastes of Broadford. Such, in brief, is a summary of our Oolitic deposits. They occupy, as I have said, but a small portion of the surface of Scotland ; and, though coal has occasionally been wrought in them, and though they furnish in several localities supplies of lime and of building stone, their economic importance is comparatively small. But a well-filled volume,—the life-