

like pieces of calico. And their variegated aspect seems to have been communicated in every instance, not during deposition, nor after they had been hardened into stone, but when, like the boulder-clay, they had existed in an intermediate state.

TRAVELLED BOULDERS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH CLAY.

ALL the travelled boulders of the north do not seem associated with the clay: we find them occurring, in some instances, in an overlying gravel, and in some instances resting at high levels on the bare rock. I have seen, on the hill of *Fyrish*,—a lofty eminence of the Lower Old Red which overlooks the upper part of the Cromarty Firth,—a boulder of an exceedingly beautiful, sparkling hornblende, reposing on a stratum of yellow sandstone, fully a thousand feet over the sea, where there is not a particle of the clay in sight. We find these travellers furnishing specimens of almost all the primary rocks of the country,—its gneisses, schistose and granitic, its granites, red, white, and grey, its hornblendic and micaceous schists, and occasionally, though more rarely, its traps. The stone most abundant among them, and which is found occurring in the largest masses, is a well-marked granitic gneiss, in which the quartz is white, and the feldspar of a pink colour, and in which the mica, intensely black, exists in oblong accumulations, ranged along the line of stratification in interrupted layers. No rock of the same kind is to be found *in situ* nearer than thirty miles. We find granitic boulders of vast size abundant in the neighbourhood of Tain, especially where the coach-road passes towards the west through a piece of barren moor, and on the range of sea-beach below. One enormous block, of a form somewhat approaching the cubical, is large enough, and seems solid enough, to admit