

The *Scandinavian* comprehends the mountains of Norway and

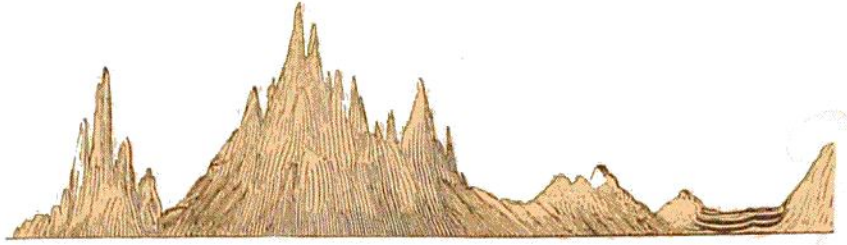


FIG. 50.—ELEVATION OF THE BRITANNIC MOUNTAINS.

Sweden, composed of broad and elevated table-lands, which are frequently intersected by deep valleys, exhibiting the gloomiest and wildest landscapes.

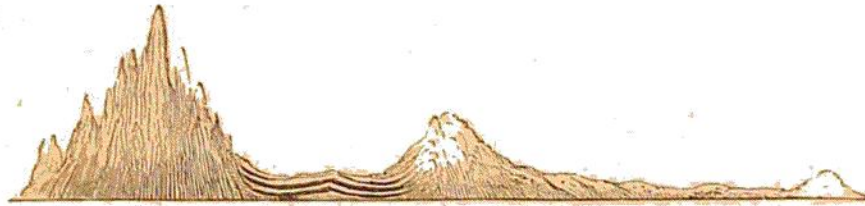


FIG. 51.—ELEVATION OF THE SCANDINAVIAN MOUNTAINS.

The *Iberian* system embraces the Pyrenees, some of whose summits aspire to a noble elevation: as the Malahite or Nethou, 11,000 feet; Mont Perdu, 10,500 feet; the Malora, 10,300 feet; and the Maladetta, 10,250 feet.* Spain itself is considerably raised above the sea-level; its mean height is computed at upwards of 2200 feet. The peak of Mulhacen, to the south-east of Granada, attains an elevation of 11,600 feet; it is the culminating point of the Sierra Nevada, or Snowy Range, which dominates over the southern coast of Spain. The Strait of Gibraltar separates it from the parallel group of the Atlas.

The mean elevation of the great chain of the Pyrenees is 8000 feet, while that of the Alps, whose isolated peaks frequently attain a surprising altitude, is only 7700 feet; it is, therefore, a more massive, and, so to speak, a more compact chain than the Alpine.

But as the *Alpine* system extends over a considerable portion of Europe, and is the vastest and most important of the European systems, while in Mont Blanc, the highest point, we also meet with

* For more exact measurements, see *post*.