

The strata correspond, and are continued, in the two disjunct walls. Sometimes a valley results from the upheaval of an eruptive mass between two strata; it then presents the subjoined configuration:



FIG. 73.—VALLEY OF UPHEAVAL.

“Valleys of separation” may also be formed by the loss or wearing away of a bed of earth formerly superimposed on other beds.

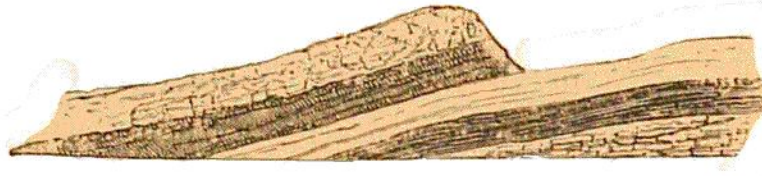


FIG. 74.—VALLEY OF SEPARATION.

This kind of valley is caused by the action of glaciers, or by surface waste.

“Valleys of denudation” exhibit the latter phenomenon on a larger scale. They owe their origin to the destructive action of the waters, which have laid bare the lower strata of the soil by carrying away the upper.

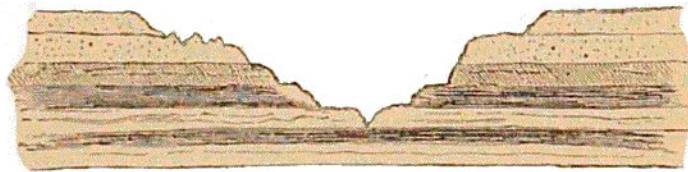


FIG. 75.—VALLEY OF DENUDATION.

Thus, then, valleys have been created by very different geological causes. The ground is lifted up in convex undulations; torn and rent by violent shocks; volcanic eruptions have broken up and dislocated the strata which were formerly continuous; currents of water gradually wearing away the earth over which they flow, have in the end excavated profound channels. It is to this concurrence of effects the surface of our planet owes its present configuration.

Among these different valleys geographers recognize yet another distinction, founded on the position which they occupy in the moun-