

exaggerate the amount of denudation that these ancient rocks have suffered in the Highlands.¹ Fig. 56, p. 289.

Farther south the different nature, both of the Silurian and newer rocks, coupled with other geological accidents, have produced the great valleys of the Forth and Clyde, and the tamer but still hilly scenery of the Southern Highlands, as they are sometimes called. These consist mainly of the Lammermuir, Moorfoot, and Carrick Hills, now often massed under the name of the Lammermuir range. But they are not a range. They consist in reality chiefly of a tableland, or old *plain of denudation*, older for the most part than the Old Red Sandstone and Carboniferous rocks; which plain, after being long buried, was subsequently again exposed by denudation of the overlying strata.

The present scenery of hill and valley in the southern part of Scotland is therefore, in great part, the result of the waste of this old tableland, and the scooping out of valleys and lake-basins, by rain, rivers, and old ice, which, as a great ice-sheet, at one time covered the whole of Scotland and much more besides. The effects of this were, in later times, modified by minor glaciers, during those oscillations of temperature that marked what we now call the Glacial epoch, and all the ordinary water produced by rain and rivers is modifying the scenery now.

¹ For cases in point see my memoirs on 'The Geology of North Wales,' and 'On the Denudation of South Wales and the Adjacent Counties,' 'Memoirs of the Geological Survey,' vol. i., 1846.