on the west produce a like effect; and thus, partly because it is the first land that the wind laden with moisture reaches, and partly because of the mountains, it happens that a greater amount of rain is precipitated in the western than in the eastern parts of our Island.

If we examine our country with regard to special areas of drainage, we find, that they are exceedingly numerous. In Scotland the rivers that run into Moray Firth drain an area of about 2,500 square miles; the Spey, which runs into the German Ocean, nearly 1,200 square miles. The Tay drains an area formed by the Grampian mountains and part of the Old Red Sandstone of 2,250 square miles. The Forth, including its estuary, drains an area of about 2,000 square miles. The Clyde, not including the greater part of its estuary, drains an area of 1,580 square miles, the Tweed 1,870 square miles.

In England, the Tyne drains 1,100 square miles, the Tees, 774. If we take the Trent and the Ouse as draining one area, the immense extent, for such a country as ours, of about 9,550 square miles are drained into the Humber. The Witham, the Welland, the Nen, and the Great Ouse, flowing into the old bay of the Wash, drain 5,850 square miles. The Thames drains an area of about 6,160 square miles; and if we include all the estuary, about 10,000. The Severn drains an area of 8,580 square miles. The Avon that enters the sea at Christchurch drains 1,210 square miles; the Ex, 643; the Towey, in Caermarthenshire, 506; the Dee, 862; the Mersey, 1,748; the Ribble, 720; and the Eden, 995; and if we take all the rivers that run into the Solway Firth, including the Eden, the area drained amounts to nearly 3,000 square miles. This leads to the question of the origin of river valleys and their different geological dates.