

any symptoms of granite. And yet the granite boulders, gray and lichenized, are strewn over these hillsides, just as they were seen far down over the Carboniferous strata of the low grounds. At a height of between 700 and 800 feet above the sea there are some remarkable mounds on our way, formed of loose earth and clay, with abundance of boulders of various Silurian rocks, and here and there with large blocks of granite strewn over their surface. Similar mounds occur higher up, and all the interval is studded as usual with granite boulders. Still we can see no granite in place. Passing one or two small lakes or lochans, which receive and discharge the waters of the Girvan in an undulating mossy tract of ground, we begin to be utterly amazed at the prodigious quantity as well as the great size of the granite blocks. Gray and lichen-crusted, or crumbling into sand, they are scattered over the valley by thousands. They lie on all manner of declivities, sometimes on mounds of rubbish, sometimes on prominent ridges of rocks, and sometimes half-buried in peat-bogs, like groups of "laired" cattle. Moreover, as we rise with this broken ground, our eyes are struck with the strange hummocky shapes into which the hillsides have been worn. The solid rock comes almost everywhere to the daylight in the form of rounded knolls and hollows, which, especially where they have been preserved from the wear and tear of the weather by a coating of turf or soil, have a singularly smoothed and polished appearance, which is rendered all the more marked, seeing that the edges of the vertical strata have been ground down into one common undulating surface. On such rounded and polished bosses of rock the never-failing granite boulders may be seen at every turn. At length the valley narrows in a scene of strange lonely grandeur. The brawling brook—it no longer