

out being convinced that they remain as a mere fragment of a great sheet of conglomerate and sandstone which stretched away westward across the abraded platform of schists, forming the interior of Sutherland. But as if to make this point quite certain, in the very heart of the county, the two solitary conical mountains of Ben Griam, 1936 feet, which rise so conspicuously above the worn platform of old crystalline rocks, are cakes of conglomerate formed out of the detritus of the schists on which they lie (Fig. 28).

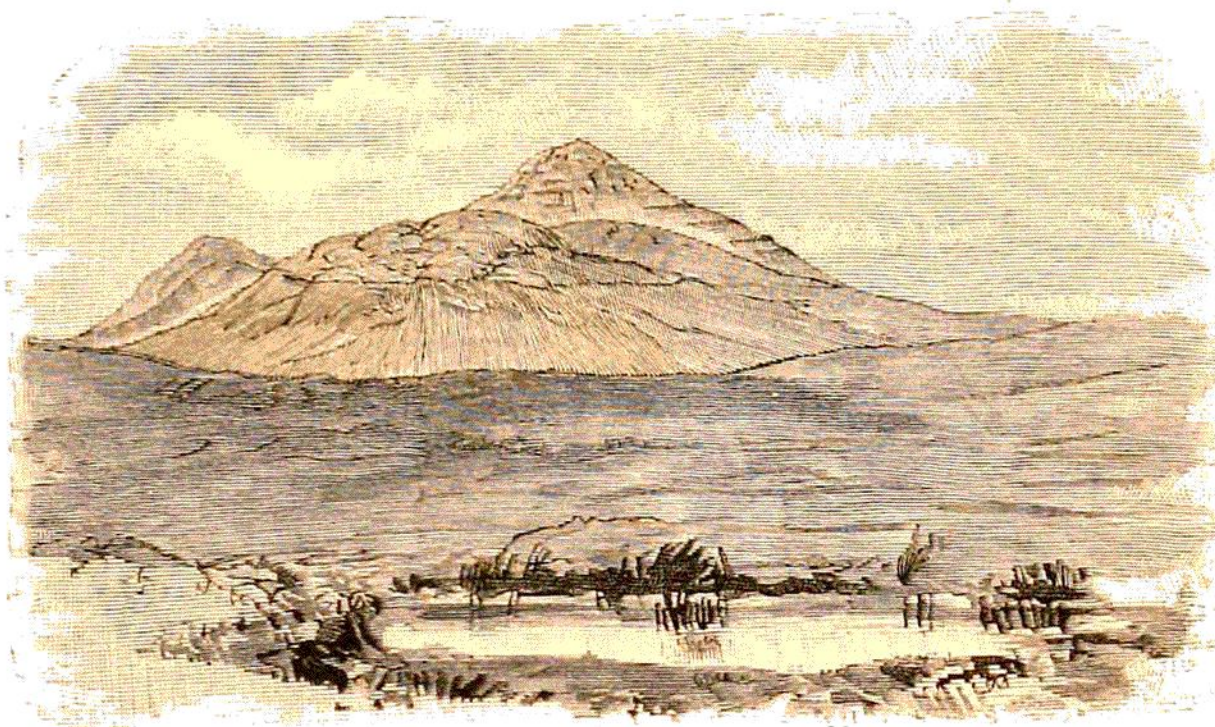


FIG. 28.—View of Ben Griam, Sutherland. The lower part of the hill consists of the Highland schists, the upper part of nearly level beds of Old Red Conglomerate and Sandstone.

So, again, along the northern shores, outliers of the same kind, but on a smaller scale, are found from the borders of Caithness to Roan Island, sometimes in little patches standing high among the inland hills. Hence it must be inferred that a large part, if not the whole, of the county of Sutherland was once covered with a sheet of Old Red conglomerate, of which there are now left only a few relics capping some of the heights of the interior and fringing the coast-line.