

which they once filled. Excellent illustrations of this phase are likewise to be seen along the shores of the Firth of Clyde, particularly on the east and south coast of Arran.

But, as I have already stated, it is not so much for their influence on the topography as for the proofs which they furnish of the stupendous denudation of the country since older Tertiary time, that these dykes are of value and interest in our present inquiry. They teach in the Lowlands

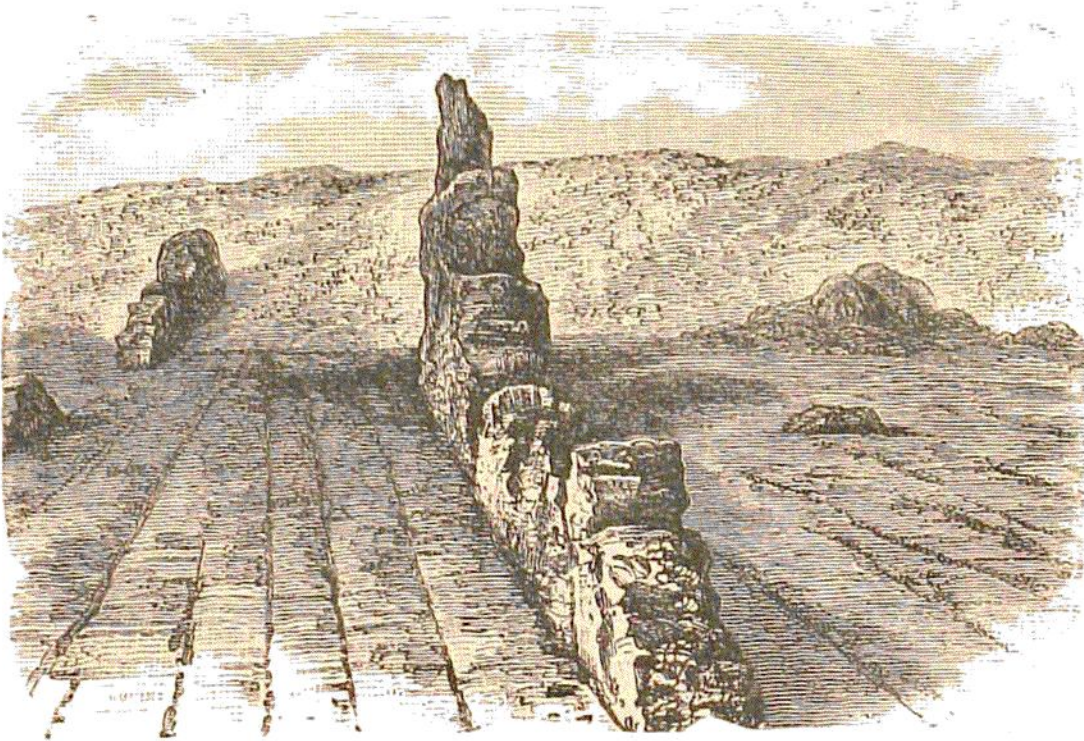


FIG. 73.—Dykes traversing jointed volcanic tuff, Shore, Elie, Fife.

the same impressive lesson as in the Highlands and Southern Uplands, proving that there also hundreds of feet of rock must have been worn away from the general surface of the country since the fissures were filled with basalt.

The various superficial accumulations — boulder-clays, sands, and gravels, raised beaches, peat mosses, river alluvia, and the rest—which cover the greater part of the surface of the Midland Valley, will be more particularly described in reference to the scenic features with which they are connected.