

them. But that they are not the ordinary moraines of glaciers, as some geologists have imagined, seems to be conclusively indicated by the general absence of angular rubbish, by the well-worn water-rolled character of the stones, and by the stratification which is almost everywhere visible in them, when a sufficiently large section is exposed. They seem to point to abundant streams of running water discharged across the face of the country from the rapid melting of snow and ice.

Connected with the kames, and perhaps nearly as old, is a series of tarns and of former lake-basins now filled with peat. I do not know a district where these features play so conspicuous a part in the scenery as in the eastern parishes of the county of Lanark, to which allusion has already been



FIG. 85.—Section of Sand and Gravel Ridges (Kames) at Carstairs, Lanarkshire. (The dark portions mark little basins of peat occupying the site of former tarns.)

made. Behind the little village of Carstairs, for instance, the ridges of sand and gravel run one after another from south-west to north-east, somewhat like the larger mounds of a tract of sand-hills by the sea. They are singularly tortuous in their course, so that they often come together, and in this way form loops which enclose basins of water or of peat. One such hollow in particular is so circular, and shelves so steeply into the pool which fills its bottom, that it at once suggests the crater of a volcano like one of those in the Eifel. As the kames there stretch across the mouth of a broad valley, they must at one time have dammed back the drainage so as to form a lake. Since then they have been cut through by the Mouse Water, and the lake has thus been drained.