

are kept to the left after Markinch is passed, and then the line bends to the north-east, following a hollow occupied by the Upper Old Red Sandstone on the north and the Carboniferous eruptive rocks on the south. **St. Andrews**, which lies off the main line, is well deserving of a visit from any one interested in coast scenery and the influence of geological structure on topographical feature. The coast-line for a few miles to the east of the town is one of the most instructive in the country; also the shore section from Largo to St. Monan's, which can easily be reached by railway. From the Tay Bridge a view is obtained of the great anticlinal arch of the Firth of Tay [Fig. 77], but this is best seen from the upper or west end of the Firth.

From Dundee the railway follows the coast for some miles and affords views of the sandhills which flank both sides of the mouth of the Firth. At Arbroath [57, 383] it strikes inland, crosses a series of volcanic ridges which are a continuation of the line of the Sidlaw Hills, and joins the railway from Perth beyond Montrose.

When the Forth Bridge is completed it will enable the traveller to command a magnificent view of the great panorama of mountains round the upper part of the basin of the Forth from the Campsie Hills through Ben Lomond and the Trossach heights to the chain of the Ochils and the volcanic cones of Saline and the west of Fife. The railway beyond Queensferry passes through the Fife coal-field until it joins the line from Burntisland. All the isolated and craggy eminences on either side are masses of eruptive rock which owe their prominence to their greater durability [353].

12. ABERDEEN AND THE NORTH-EASTERN COUNTIES

Aberdeen may be used as a centre for the exploration of the scenery of the north-east of Scotland. The following excursions from it may be more particularly recommended:—

(1.) **The Coast-line south of the Dee.**—A ferry-boat at the mouth of the river will put the traveller down near the beginning of an interesting piece of rocky coast. He can follow the top of the cliffs by a footpath which commands views of all the interesting points, and from which he may almost anywhere descend to the beach. As the railway runs close to