

and halt on the bottom the slower the motion of the water. In Fig. 124 the river in flowing from *a* to *b* has a less angle of declivity and a smaller transporting power, and will therefore have a greater tendency to throw down sediment, than in descending the steeper gradient from *b* to *c*.

In the course of every brook and river, there are fre-

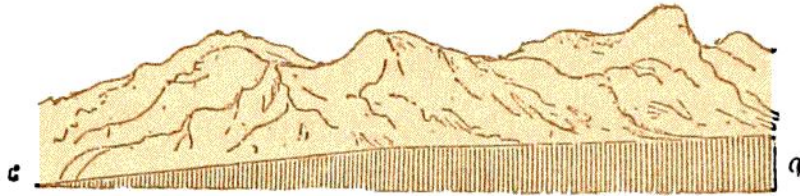


Fig. 124.—Section of part of a river-channel (B.).

quent checks to the current. If these are examined, they will usually be found to be each marked by a more or less conspicuous deposit of sediment. We may notice seven different situations in which stream-deposits or *alluvium* may be accumulated.

(a) At the foot of Mountain Slopes.—When a runnel or

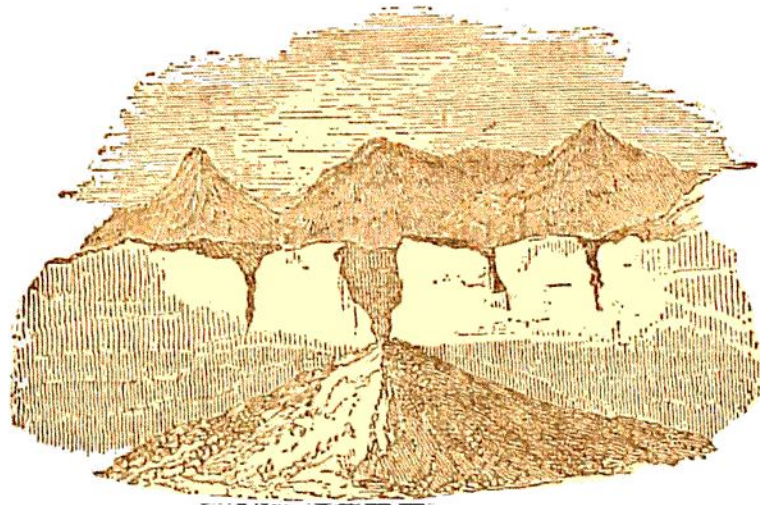


Fig. 125.—Tributary torrent sending a cone of detritus into a valley (B.).

torrent descends a steep declivity it tears down the soil and rocks, cutting a gash out of the side of the mountain (Fig. 125). On reaching the more level ground at the base of the slope, the water, abruptly checked in its velocity, at once drops its coarser sediment, which gathers in a fan-shaped