

are well developed in the Saxon Granulitgebirge and in the North of Scotland. They are further referred to at p. 314, and Book IV. Part VIII.

§ 2. Sheets, Sills

Eruptive masses have been intruded between other rocks, and now appear as more or less regularly defined beds. In many cases, it will be found that these intrusions have taken place between the planes of stratification. The ascending molten matter, after breaking across the rocks, or rather, after ascending through fissures, either previously formed or opened at the time of the outburst, has at last found its path of least resistance to lie along the bedding-planes of the strata. Accordingly it has thrust itself between the beds, raising up the overlying mass, and solidifying as a nearly or exactly parallel cake, sheet, or sill.

It is evident that one of these intercalated sheets must present such points of resemblance to a subaerial stream of lava as to make it occasionally a somewhat difficult matter to determine its true character, more especially when, owing to extensive denudation, or other cause, only a small portion of the rock can now be seen. Intrusive sheets are marked by the following characters, though these must not be supposed to be all present in every case. (1) They do not rigidly conform to the bedding of the rocks among which they are intercalated, but sometimes break across it, and run along on another platform. (2) They catch up and involve portions of the surrounding strata. (3) They sometimes send veins into the rocks above and below them. (4) They are connected with dikes or pipes which, descending through the rocks underneath, have been the channels