valley of the Dee, and terminating at Castleton of Braemar. The track which it lays open is peculiarly a favourite one with the botanist, for the many interesting plants which it furnishes; and so much so with the geologist, that what may be termed the classic literature of the science might, with the guide-books of the country, be brought as evidence into court in the case. Playfair's admirably-written "Illustrations of Hutton" take part against the Duke and his gillies. That curious junction of the granite and stratified schists in which Hutton recognised the first really solid ground for his theory, and of which, as forming the great post of vantage in the battle between his followers and those of Werner, a representation may be found in almost every geological treatise since published, occurs in Glen Tilt, and possesses a more than European celebrity. There is not a man of science in the world who has not heard of it. The history of its discovery, and of what it establishes, as given in a few sentences by one of the most popular of modern geologists, we must present to the reader. "The absence of stratification in granite," says Mr Lyell, "and its analogy in mineral character to rocks deemed of igneous origin, led Hutton to conclude that granite must also have been formed from matter in fusion; and this inference, he felt, could not be fully confirmed, unless he discovered, at the contact of granite and other strata, a repetition of the phenomena exhibited so constantly by the trap rocks. Resolved to try his theory by this test, he went to the Grampians, and surveyed the line of junction of the granite and superincumbent stratified masses, and found in Glen Tilt, in 1785, the most clear and unequivocal proofs in support of his views. Veins of red granite are there seen branching out from the principal mass, and traversing the black micaceous schists and primary limestones. The intersected stratified rocks are so distinct in colour and appearance, as to render the example in that lo-