

are sometimes reminded that the chemical solvent action of the water is also not without its influence. Where, for instance, a stream issues from a peaty region charged with the organic acids which the peat supplies, it produces considerable corrosive effect upon limestone or other calcareous rock over which it flows. As an illustration, reference may be made to the little stream which, in descending from the peat-bogs into the head of the Kyle of Durness, flows for some distance in limestone, and has eaten away the base of the low cliffs on either side (Fig. 6).



FIG. 6.—Chemical action of a stream on limestone, Durness, Sutherland.

Before quitting the subject of river-action I would refer to the magnitude of the effects of a single great rain-storm, as illustrated by one of the most memorable examples ever experienced in Scotland—the famous Morayshire floods of the year 1829. There had been a season of unusually hot weather during the summer, and this was followed in the first week of August by such a downpour of rain as does not seem ever to have been equalled within historic times. The suddenness with which the waters rose, the great size the