logical formations likewise form a broken belt on both the eastern and western sides of the country. These younger deposits are of no great importance as regards the space they occupy, but they possess considerable interest from the information they supply as to the probable condition of the Highland area at certain intervals during the vast lapse of time between the Old Red Sandstone and the present day. A solitary patch of Carboniferous sandstones and shales, with recognisable plant-remains, was found by Professor Judd on the beach of the eastern side of the Sound of Mull. But beyond the fact that Carboniferous strata stretched up the west side of Britain as far as that point, they do not help in the elucidation of the geological history of the Highlands. No Permian rocks are known to occur within the Highlands. Certain unfossiliferous red beds, which on some parts of the west coast underlie the Lias, are supposed to be of Triassic age. They consist of sandstones, conglomerates, and breccias, and attain their greatest thickness at Gruinard Bay, on the west coast of Ross-shire, where they must be several hundred feet thick. On the east side of the country, the tract between Elgin, Burghead, and Lossiemouth is occupied by Triassic sandstones containing remains of reptiles. A group of strata was formerly exposed at Linksfield near Elgin containing fossils which appear to show it to belong to the Rhætic beds at the top of the Trias. But it was almost certainly a mass transported by ice, and indicated that Rhætic strata may exist in situ at no great distance under the North Sea.

The Jurassic system is well represented on both sides of the Highlands. Along the east coast of Sutherland, Rossshire, and Cromarty, good sections are exposed, showing the succession of strata from the Lower Lias up to what