

from side to side he cannot doubt ; but since that time the strait has been cut through them some twenty miles long, a mile and a half to nearly three miles broad, and from crest to crest of the opposite hills at least 2000 feet deep. Still more striking perhaps is Loch Scriden, which deeply indents the western side of Mull. On either side the horizontal basalts rise terrace above terrace, till, in the bold headland of Gribon, they reach a height of more than 1600 feet above sea-level. The distance across from crest to crest of the ridges is rather more than four miles, and the depth from a line joining the crests down to the bottom of the loch is about 1800 feet. The relative proportions of the removed material may be seen in Fig. 34, which, however, probably represents only a very small part of the

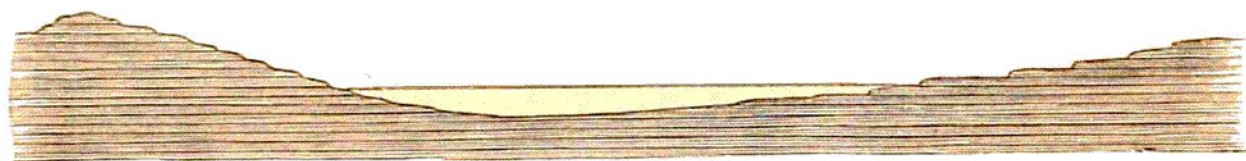


FIG. 34.—Section across Loch Scriden, Mull.

denudation. Gribon runs eastward into Ben More, and looking across at its terrace slopes we can easily see that it must have been covered with at least the lavas left in that mountain ; that is, with 1500 feet of additional rock (see Fig. 31).

In Rum and in Skye similar evidence presents itself in abundance. We perceive that since the Tertiary volcanic rocks were poured out they have been trenched to the very core, hundreds of feet of lava have been worn away from their surface, and long deep glens, quite comparable with those in the more ancient schists of the Highlands, have been dug out of them. But there is another kind of evidence that, to a geological eye, appeals perhaps even more