

forms by denudation, the hard dark jointed gabbro giving rise to black crested and serrated ridges and peaks of the Coolin type, while the granitoid rocks crumble into cones, like Marsco, Glamich, and the other Red Hills.

Let us now consider the influence manifested in Highland scenery by those rocks which are disposed in parallel beds or strata. I have already had occasion to allude to the majestic examples of this influence in the red sandstone hills of Western Sutherland and Ross. Where stratified rocks have been greatly crumpled and dislocated, they lose much of their distinctive character, but where they remain flat or only gently inclined, they assume certain well-marked forms which present a great contrast to those of the crystalline rocks. The level lines of bedding stand out along the slopes and cliffs, and the vertical joints allow the steep walls of rock to be cleft into deep notches and to weather into massive quadrangular buttresses and tall jointed columns. This union of vertical and horizontal lines imparts a strangely architectural aspect to the hills, insomuch that the observer, as his eye wanders over them, instinctively seeks to find, in the language of the architect, terms that shall be adequately descriptive.

The level lines of cliff or steep bank rising above gentle slopes, and marking the edge or outcrop of harder beds, are known as 'escarpments.' Such lines of cliff may run for many miles across a country, winding into wide and deep bays and protruding into the plains as bold promontories, and reminding us in these features of a long indented coast-line. Or they may rise one above another into high terraced slopes, or tower into lofty pyramids. The numerous escarpments of the Secondary rocks, which stretch across England from the headlands of Yorkshire to those of Dorset, are typical features in English scenery.