

one might fancifully compare to deep parallel gashes made by the flensers across the whale's back (Fig. 62).

Among the higher mountains, where sub-aërial waste advances at its most rapid pace, the obliteration of the marks of the ice may be seen in all its stages of progress. Where a covering of peat or moraine-stuff has protected the rock, the polished and striated surface may still be seen as fresh as if the glacier had only just left it. But elsewhere the influence of air, rain, and frost has corroded the surface, split open the joints, and restored somewhat of the rough, jagged, angular forms which the ice had smoothed away. But it is unnecessary to multiply instances of a feature of

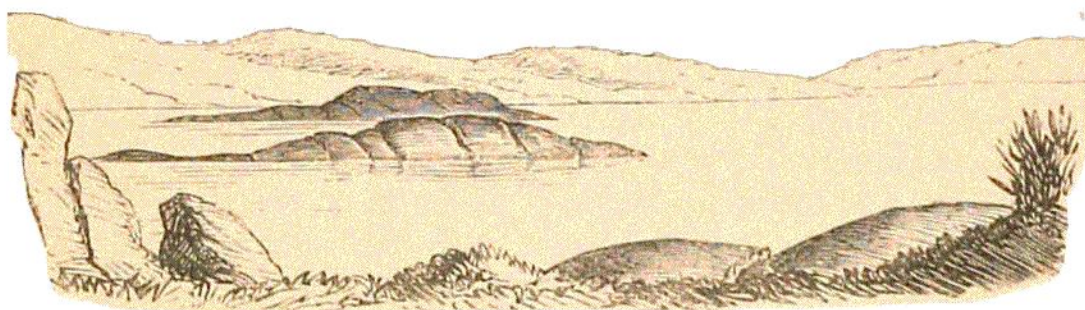


FIG. 62.—Ice-worn islets in Loch Fyne, weathering along the parallel joints of the rock.

Highland scenery which may be seen more or less distinctly on almost every hillside and valley.

Nor is it needful to do more than allude to the innumerable ravines and river-channels which have been excavated since the ice disappeared. The rubbish left by the ice has in many cases completely filled up the pre-glacial river-channels, and since the ice retired the streams have been digging out new courses for themselves, sometimes in that rubbish, sometimes in the solid rock. It can be demonstrated that many deep and wide gorges have been excavated since the retreat of the ice.

Since the Glacial period came to a close, not only have