

revolutions, this region has once more been upraised, denudation has been resumed, the Old Red Sandstone has been in great measure stripped off the hills, and at last the long hollow once more exposed to the air has again become a valley that gathers the drainage of the surrounding high grounds. The history of Lauderdale is well illustrated by another depression of the same age, from which the sediment that filled it has not been removed. It stretches between Dunbar and Greenlaw, completely across the present chain of the Lammermuirs. The red conglomerate and sandstone still choke it up, and it remains a buried valley of the Upper Old Red Sandstone.

Nithsdale existed, at least in part, as far back as the early portion of the Carboniferous period, for strata of Carboniferous Limestone age lie in it. But it was buried under Coal-measures during the later stages of the same period. In Permian times, however, it had again been excavated, though probably not quite along the old line. Permian breccias, with here and there the relics of Permian volcanoes, lie at the bottom of the valley from Dumfries nearly up as far as Sanquhar.

Annandale is another valley which had already, in the Permian period, been excavated as deep as it is now, as is proved by the cake of breccia on its floor. But, like the others, it was no doubt deeply entombed under Permian or younger deposits. Far to the south-west, the depression filled by the waters of Loch Ryan and Luce Bay seems to be another transverse land-valley, once stretching away to the north-west, and as old as the Carboniferous period, for both Carboniferous and Permian strata line its western side. In all these examples of the survival of ancient valleys, which have been adopted into the present drainage-system of the country, there is clear evidence that the hollows were deeply