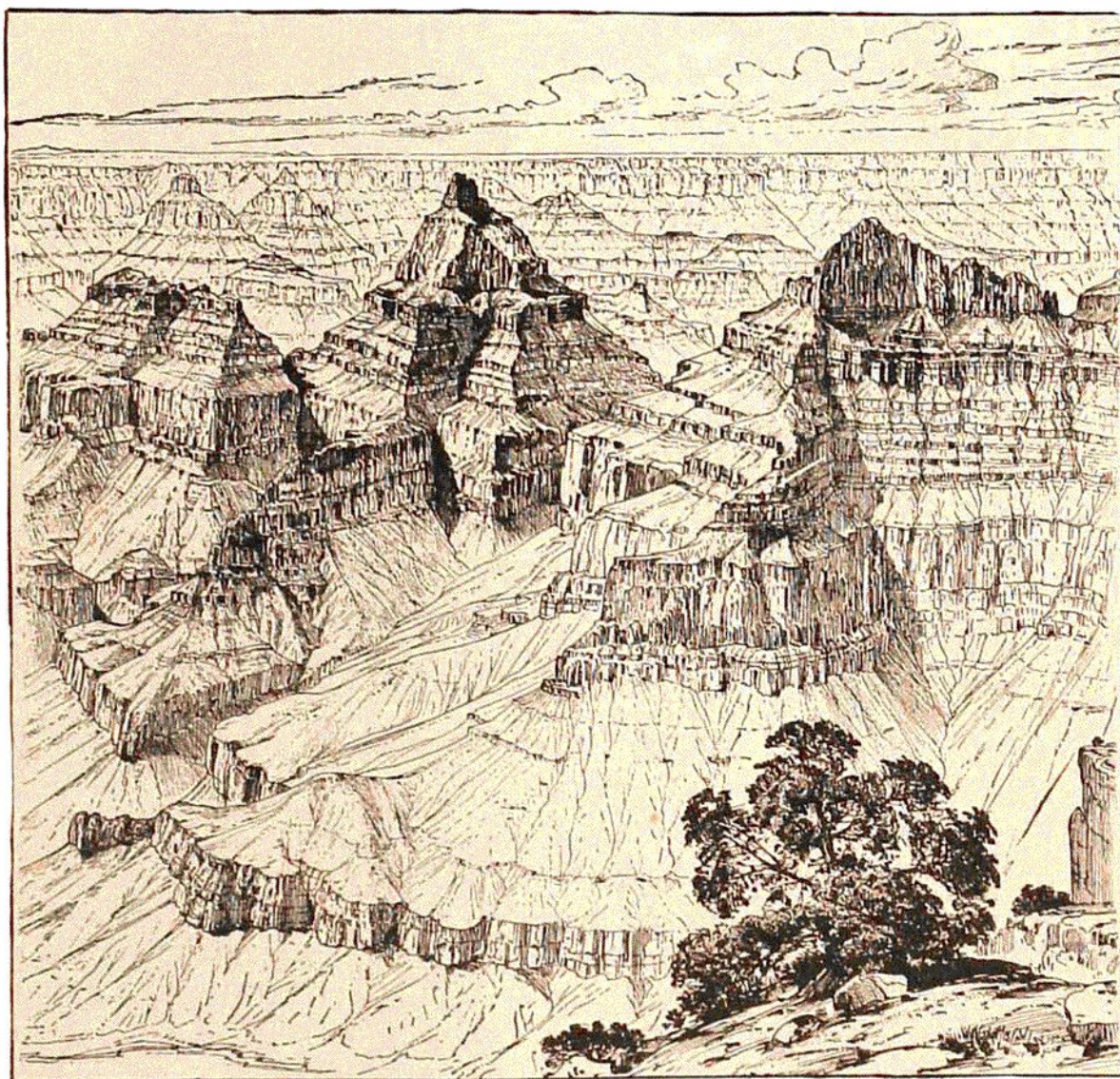


The results are the more marvelous in that they are the work of the later part of geological time, commencing after the Tertiary era had begun. They show that to produce a mountain group, with summits thousands of feet above the plain around, it is only necessary that subterranean action should make a plateau of sufficient extent and elevation. Through the rains, the sculpturing will all be done in time. Many of the so-called mountains of Colo-

179.



View of peaks and ridges within the Colorado Cañon, south of the Kaibab Plateau. W. H. Holmes.

rado and other parts of the Rocky Mountain region, and some of those in eastern America, as the Catskills in New York, and parts of the Alleghanies, consist of nearly horizontal strata, and are examples — not of mountains made by upturning, but of plateaus carved into models of mountains. Scotch valleys and elevations so modeled gave Hutton the first right ideas on this subject.

The “harder” rocks in the scenes described, it is to be understood, are not granite, gneiss, syenite, and the like; they are not rocks of any particular kind. Granite may constitute the loftiest and boldest of ridges and moun-