block like that represented in Fig. 154, he would properly conclude that it had travelled, because it did not belong to the rock on which it lay. But he would require to prove further that there was no rock in the immediate neighborhood from which it could have fallen as the result of mere weathering. The granite (*c*) shown in Fig. 155 disintegrates at the summit, and the blocks into which it splits find their way by gravitation down the slope.[239]

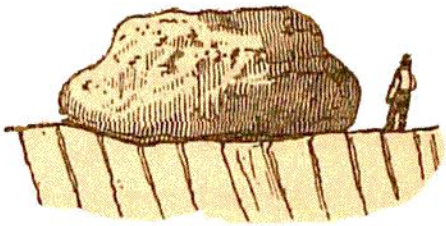

Fig. 154.—Block of granite resting on inclined strata (*B.*).

(*b*) *Erosion.*—The manner and results of erosion in the channel of a glacier differ from those associated with other geological agents, and form therefore distinguishing features of ice-action. This erosion is effected not by the mere contact and pressure of the ice upon the rocks (though undoubtedly blocks of rock may thereby be detached), but by means of the fine sand, stones, and blocks of rock that fall between the ice and the rocks on which it moves. The detritus thus introduced is, for the most part, fresh and angular. Its trituration by the glacier reduces the size of the particles, but retains their angular character, so that, as Daubrée has

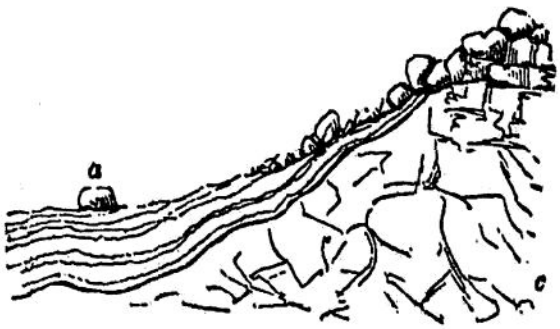

Fig. 155.—Granite (*c*) decomposing into blocks (*a*) which gradually roll down upon the surrounding stratified rocks (*B.*).

[239] De la Beche, "Geological Observer," p. 257. The surface of some parts of the granite districts of Cornwall are strewn with large bowlders of granite, schorl-rock, vein-quartz, etc., but these, though resembling erratics in form, are all due to decomposition of the parent-rocks *in situ*.