

The Assynt district furnishes impressive evidence of denudation by the removal of a vast covering of Torridon Sandstone, by the persistent eastward recession of that escarpment, by the stripping off of the materials overlying the successive thrust-planes, and also by the development of the present drainage system. It is a remarkable fact that south of the mountainous region of Assynt the watershed lies to the east of Cul Mor, Cul Beag, and the Coigach mountains in the less elevated platform of the Moine schists. It is evident that the present drainage system originated at a remote geological period, when the eastern or Moine schists extended far to the west of their present limits, and were arranged in the form of a dome round the displaced masses which now form the mountainous region of Assynt. It is highly probable, also, that before the glacial period the land stood relatively higher than at present, and that the rivers on the west side of the watershed occupy consequent valleys which extended far to the west of the present coast-line.

Everywhere throughout the Assynt district, and especially in the mountainous region extending from Glas Bheinn to the Coigach area and over the plateau of Archæan gneiss, there is conclusive evidence of intense glaciation. Perhaps the most striking feature of the glacial phenomena of Assynt is the evidence pointing to the conclusion that during the maximum glaciation the ice-shed did not coincide with the existing watershed. From an examination of the striæ indicating the direction of the ice-flow, and from the distribution of boulders, it appears that the ice-parting lay to the east of the present watershed. Indeed, the ice must have accumulated to a great thickness on the less elevated plateau occupied by the Moine schists east of the Ben More Assynt range and east of the Coigach mountains.

The general movement of the ice at great elevations in this district was in a westerly direction, sometimes to the north and sometimes south of that point. For example, on Glas Bheinn, on one of the exposures of Archæan gneiss, at a height exceeding 2000 feet, the striæ point W.  $5^{\circ}$  N. Again, on Beallach an Uidhe, between Glas Bheinn and Beinn Uidhe, at an elevation of about 2000 feet, the direction is west-south-west. East of Inchnadamph, on the quartzite of Beinn an Fhurain, between the 2000- and 2250-foot contour-lines, the striæ run north of west. In the lofty pass crossing the Ben More range, that leads into Corrie Mhadaidh, at a level of 2750 feet, the direction is W.  $10^{\circ}$  S. or W.S.W. In like manner, on the long ridge of Breabag that runs northward from the Beallach of Coniveall, the average height of which is over 2000 feet, splendidly striated surfaces have been recorded which indicate an ice-movement in a westerly direction.

Passing westwards to the mountains north and south of Loch Assynt, we find similar evidence of a westerly movement during the