

by the post-Cambrian movements there are masses of displaced gneiss, of which the most important lies immediately to the north of Kinlochewe; others appear further north on Mullach Coire Mhic Fhearchair, and far to the south on Glas Bheinn, on Torr na h-Iolaire, and at Coulags in Glen Carron. Over much of the region they form lofty ground and give rise to prominent peaks, as, for example, Beinn Lair (2817 feet), Beinn a' Chaisgein Mor (2802 feet), and Beinn Airidh Charr (2593 feet), all north of Loch Maree.

Throughout this area there is a remarkable development of those types of Archæan rocks that have affinities with plutonic igneous products, consisting mainly of massive and foliated, pyroxenic, hornblendic, and micaceous gneisses. Along the northern margin of this district, between Loch na Sheallag and Gruinard Bay, the original characters of the rocks that enter into the fundamental complex are well displayed. The various stages in the separation of the ferromagnesian from the quartzo-felspathic constituents, and the gradual development of mineral banding in the massive gneisses are there clearly shown. In that area, also, the intrusive character of the basic dykes traversing the gneiss in a west-north-west direction is proved beyond all doubt. Passing southwards to the tract lying south of Poolewe, both the gneisses and the intrusive dykes have been thrown into an anticlinal fold, which is represented on the Geological Survey Map (Sheet 91). Here we find that, under the influence of mechanical stresses, there has been differential movement of the rock constituents, and linear foliation has been developed in the basic dykes—the foliation being parallel with the pitch of the folds. Further south in the Torridon district biotite gneisses prevail, which are traversed by bands of hornblende-schist representing the original basic dykes.

Of special interest is the development of crystalline schists, that have affinities with rocks of sedimentary origin, north of Loch Maree and near Gairloch. The prominent members of this series are quartz-schists, mica-schists, graphitic-schists, limestones, and dolomites, with tremolite, garnet, and epidote, which are there associated with a massive intrusive sheet of hornblende-schist. Lithologically some of these crystalline schists closely resemble the altered sediments in the Eastern Highlands. The quartz-schists, mica-schists, and limestones are well exposed in various folds between Letterewe and Glen Tulacha, west of Lochan Fada, pierced by the great sill of hornblende-schist forming Beinn Lair and Beinn Airidh Charr (B^e on map). The original relations of these altered sediments to the gneisses that have affinities with plutonic igneous rocks have been obscured by subsequent earth stresses. But along their outer margin they are bounded by gneiss apparently underlying them, and they are visibly overlain by gneiss with basic dykes, the whole series being affected by a common system of folds.