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the direction of the neighbouring stream. But I suspect that they follow its general inclination—it might be said, incline "conformably" with the stream, as a general rule. For instance, it is very common for ditches—which, of course, always have some fall, though their fall varies extremely from an inch in a mile to an inch or more in a yard—to be carried along a bench in the direction of the principal stream, very rarely against that direction, and only when the supply is taken from a side creek, when, of course, the ditch may be taken in any direction. This question could not be determined without levelling a good many benches carefully. I should not be disposed to place much reliance on a barometer for such minute differences of level, and any hypsometer I have seen would be useless. But as to the transverse inclination (*i.e.* in the direction at right angles to that inquired of by Mr. Robinson), a great many benches, especially as they recede from the river, have a very decided inclination, *i.e.* they slope from the mountain towards the stream, and sometimes very rapidly, as if an upheaving force had burst through a slightly flexible stratum of drift, and raised it to the highest point just before it finally emerged. Nevertheless, the benches sometimes slope the reverse way; so that I know two or three instances of benches where lakes are formed next to the mountain base, the bench presenting an appearance similar to the "lip" on rivers running through alluvial flats, but which appearance is, I think, due to quite a different cause from the "lip," *viz.*, to a local depression having taken place after the formation of the bench.

Having made these very imperfect preliminary remarks, I shall now consider the questions put by Mr. Robinson. I fear I cannot give a categorical answer to them, chiefly owing to my own ignorance, from not having paid sufficient attention to the points inquired into; but partly, perhaps, because Mr. Robinson appears not to have conceived these benches as they really are.

Taking, then, the first and third questions in connection with each other, *viz.*—First, "How many terraces or benches are there at Lytton? On which of them does Lytton stand, and what are their heights above each other?" Third, "Does the terrace on which Lytton stands come nearer the river as you ascend the river, and so die out about Lilloett?"

These questions seem to indicate the idea of one continuous terrace, if not several, running all the way from Lytton to Lilloett, about 43 miles. But there is one large river—the Thomson—immediately above Lytton; so that the flat is perhaps not more than half a mile long. There are many creeks and points of bed-rock,