

majority of the lochs. This loch will therefore be described with some fulness, and those which essentially resemble it, differing mainly in size, will be included in the summary table giving the principal dimensions. A few of the other large lochs, and any of rather different structure or coming nearer true rock-basins, as well as Loch Obisary, on account of its size and depth, will be described with more detail.

Of the thirty-nine lochs which were surveyed thirty-two are fresh-water, and the remaining seven are more or less salt. Some of those regarded as fresh may receive very exceptional tides. Lochs Duin, Strumore, Oban a' Chlachain, and Leodsay are purely tidal, receiving ordinary tides, though their level is only moderately affected by the tides. Loch Strumore rises and falls about 2 feet, while the whole tide is about 18 feet. Loch Oban nam Fiadh is of an intermediate character, the flora and fauna towards the lower end being purely marine, while in the upper part the fauna is fresh-water. Loch Caravat is so fresh that we only learned its tidal character from the account of the natives.

There are no important streams in North Uist. In the western part of the island are some a few miles in length, and large enough to be dignified by names, but in the part surveyed, where most of the lochs are situated, they are extremely short, generally only a few yards long. The stream which drains Loch Scadavay and its connected chain of lochs, though of fair size, is of inconsiderable length. This stream, with those connecting all the larger tributary lochs, has a total length of only about a mile, and the longest portion of it, from Loch Scadavay to Loch Garbh-Abhuinn Ard, is less than half a mile long.

The thirty-nine lochs surveyed belong to nineteen distinct basins. Most of these contain only one loch, which usually drains directly to the sea by a short channel, often no longer than the width of the public road. There are twelve of these lochs, which are the only lochs in the basins to which they belong, or the only lochs surveyed. They are Lochs Veiragvat, an Dùin, nan Geireann, Hosta, Oban a' Chlachain, Leodsay, an Tomain, Obisary, a' Chladaich, Tormasad, a' Bharpa, and Buaille. The only important lochs among these are Lochs Obisary and nan Geireann.

There are only six of the basins in which more than one loch was surveyed. These basins cannot be distinguished by the names of the streams draining them, as these are usually nameless. They are here distinguished by the name of the most important loch in the basin, or by that of the lowest, into which the others drain.

The Scadavay Basin.—This is by far the largest of the basins, and includes ten lochs which were sounded, besides many smaller ones. The combined surface areas of all the lochs have a total measurement of nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, Loch Scadavay itself contributing nearly half of this. The combined drainage area extends to $14\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, and of this Loch Scadavay alone, excluding its tributary lochs, drains more than half, or over