

## LOCHS OF THE ETIVE BASIN.

WITHIN the area draining into Loch Etive (see Index Map, Fig. 28) the staff of the Lake Survey sounded some twenty lochs, including Loch Awe, one of the most important of the Scottish fresh-water lochs, which was surveyed by naval officers in 1861, as already mentioned when speaking of Loch Lomond, in the Clyde basin, the only other loch in Scotland surveyed by the Government. Loch Awe has the distinction of being the longest lake in Scotland, and in comparison with it the other lochs in the basin are dwarfed into insignificance; still, Lochs Avich and Tulla are good-sized basins, exceeding each a square mile in superficial area, but the remaining lochs are mostly very small. Dubh Lochan, near Kingshouse, drains by the river Etive into the head of Loch Etive; Loch Dochard drains into Loch Tulla, and thence by the river Orchy into Loch Awe; Lochan na Bi, near Tyndrum, drains by the river Lochy, which joins the river Orchy just before entering Loch Awe at Dalmally; Loch Ederline, near the head of Loch Awe, Loch Avich, to the west of the central part of Loch Awe, Lochs an Leòid, an Droighinn, and na Gealaich, to the west of the lower part of Loch Awe, and the four little hill lochs near Portsonachan (Lochs Rainbow, Choire na Cloich, Dhu, and Allt na Mult) all drain into Loch Awe by longer or shorter streams; Loch Sior drains into Loch Nant, and thence by the river Nant into Loch Etive at Taynuilt; the Black Lochs drain by the Lusragan burn into Loch Etive at Connel ferry, while Lochans nan Ràth and na Beithe lie on the north side of Loch Etive, opposite Connel ferry. The scenery of the district is very fine, and the fishing in most of the lochs good. Loch Awe contains salmon and *Salmo ferox*, as well as trout.

*Loch Awe* (see Plates CXXII. and CXXIII.).—Loch Awe being so well known, and the depth conditions having been known since the publication of the Admiralty chart in 1863, no lengthy description is called for here. It is extremely elongate, but sinuous, in outline, and is peculiar in that a long narrow arm branches off at right angles to the main axis, and leads through the Pass of Brander to the outflow (see Fig. 36). As already indicated, Loch Awe exceeds in length all other Scottish fresh-water lochs, for measured along the central axis from the head of the loch to the exit of the river Awe, in the Pass of Brander, it is almost  $25\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length. Even excluding the narrow arm, and measuring from the head of the loch