

fowl. That such birds are active agents in the distribution of aquatic plants is beyond doubt. They are also great destroyers of the less robust vegetation, especially in shallow water, and are frequently the cause of the sudden disappearance of an association of plants from some particular part of a shore. To cite an example: I have known *Scirpus setaceus* quite obliterated from a sandy shore, whilst other plants new to that lake were introduced; and such changes amongst the minor associations of plants are constantly occurring.

#### AREA V

Having now passed by a circuitous and zigzag route over the majority of the lochs situated in north-west Kirkcudbrightshire, where the highland type predominates, let us examine south-east Kirkcudbrightshire, where many of the lochs are lowland in character. This district is almost wholly devoted to agricultural pursuits. The land is frequently very rich, and the farmers are prosperous and noted for their wealth. The undulating and often well-wooded country is frequently beautiful. There are no large towns, but the country is studded with numerous villages, and, for an agricultural district, it is well populated. There are comparatively few lochs, and we may begin their inspection at Loch Corsock, and passing over the Area by way of Lochs Erncrogo, Glentoo, Carlingwark, and Lochaber, finish our tour at a group of small lochs lying to the south of Dalbeattie. The original paper contains thirteen illustrations of the lochs, etc., of this Area.

**Loch Corsock** is a somewhat triangular sheet of water situated in an upland district, whose moorland character has been modified by cultivation. It is six miles north of Crossmichael, at an elevation of 540 feet above sea-level, and the water is somewhat peaty. The western shores are flat and muddy or peaty, and have an extensive vegetation, whilst the eastern shores are rocky and stony, with only a few plants. On the south-west side there is an extensive marsh, now partially drained. The west, north, and north-east sides are clothed with coniferous wood, and there is also a small plantation of the same kind on the south side. The loch is therefore wind-sheltered to a considerable extent, although open to the south-west. *Alisma ranunculoides* was abundant, and many specimens were flowering at a depth of 3 feet below the surface, as well as the normal terrestrial form about the margins of the loch. A considerable number of phanerogams grow here, but, save for a few abundant species, Bryophytes are scarce.

**Loch Roan** is a somewhat triangular sheet of water two miles north of Crossmichael. The west, north, and east margins are