

quarters of a mile in length, with a maximum breadth of half a mile. This loch is the reservoir for the water supply of Dumfries, and the water is clear, not peaty. An extensive, deep marsh at the south end, which has been cut off from the loch by a dam, is overgrown with common plants. The shores of the loch are mostly stony, and it is surrounded by cultivated land. It presents very little of botanical interest. The three last-mentioned lochs occupy bleak, wind-exposed situations in an area of active agriculture, and the scenery around is tame and uninteresting.

Lochaber Loch is eight miles north-east from Dalbeattie. It is surrounded with low hills, the lower slopes of which are wooded, chiefly with coniferous trees, to the water's edge, excepting on the west, where the country is open and agricultural land prevails. The water is slightly peaty, and the marginal flora is poor in variety. At the south-east end there are associations of *Scirpus lacustris*, *Equisetum limosum*, and *Carex rostrata*, none of which grow so tall and luxuriant as might be expected from the lowland situation. At the west side, where the shore is boggy, there are associations of *Phragmites communis*, but the specimens are dwarfed, also of *Carex rostrata*, *Equisetum limosum*, *Castalia speciosa*, and *Menyanthes trifoliata*. Otherwise the somewhat flat and stony shores are either bare of vegetation, or sparsely clothed with a few common plants.

Auchenhill Loch, which is four miles south of Dalbeattie, is the smallest of a group of four lochs. It is about a quarter of a mile long by one hundred yards wide, and is a typical lowland pool situated amidst pleasant pastoral scenery. There are no trees at its margin, but it is more or less surrounded by a zone of *Phragmites communis*, behind which there is a border of marsh merging imperceptibly into meadow. In front of the *Phragmites* a belt of *Castalia speciosa* almost encircles the loch, and behind the former an area of bog, overgrown with the usual marsh plants, surrounds the whole.

Barean Loch is about half a mile east of the last-mentioned, but it is considerably larger, and has an irregular outline. The water is rather peaty. It is picturesquely surrounded by low hills, some portions of which are cultivated, while the remainder consists either of moor or of wood; the margin of the loch is also well wooded. It is more or less surrounded by a sedge or reed marsh, composed chiefly of the following species:—*Scirpus lacustris*, *Phragmites communis*, *Equisetum limosum*, and *Carex rostrata*. A number of common submersed aquatics occur in the water, amongst which may be especially mentioned *Apium inundatum*, because it grows here to a depth of 7 feet, and reaches the surface from that depth, although in such deep water it does not fruit freely.