

AÛSCOT, NAN.—Rock-basin in Lewisian Gneiss.

AVICH.—Rock-basin in quartzites, phyllites, limestones, and epidiorites (Loch Awe group). Like Loch Awe, the upper end of this loch is in part surrounded by a high terrace of sand and silt 200 feet above the present surface of the lake, which must have been formed when the rest of the rock-basin was occupied by a lobe of ice projecting from the Loch Awe glacier. The height of this terrace was determined by the level of the col at the head of the valley over which the loch must have drained westwards into the Barbreck river towards Loch Craignish.

AWE (Etive basin).—Valley rock-basin, mostly along the strike of crystalline schists, composed of altered sedimentary and igneous rocks (Loch Awe group), and partly along the shatter-belt of the Pass of Brander fault, in consequence of which the loch forks. The lake has two basins. The more southerly and longer one from Ford to the island of Inistrynich follows the strike of the strata, while the other coincides for some distance with the Pass of Brander shatter-belt and then bends nearly at a right angle towards the mouth of the river Orchy. The two basins are separated from each other by a comparatively shallow plateau, on which the rocky islands are situated. The study of the glaciation of the region shows that, during the confluent glacier period, the Pass of Brander, although of pre-glacial origin, was not sufficiently wide to drain off all the ice poured into the head of Loch Awe by the convergent glens of the Shira, the Orchy, and the Lochy. From the soundings of the Lake Survey it may be inferred that the ice that passed through the Pass of Brander worked along the comparatively weak belt of shattered rock in the pass, thus producing the peculiar L-shaped basin shown in the charts. The surplus ice streamed across the shallow plateau, and, gaining accessions from the Ben Lui and Ben Buidhe mountain masses, moved towards the south-west end of the lake. As the valley narrowed, the abrading action of the ice was increased, which resulted in the longer and deeper basin along the strike of the strata. The phenomena at the south-west end of the loch show that, at a period during the retreat of this confluent glacier, the Craig an Tairbh pass was choked by the ice, and the melt-water of the glacier escaped across a high col into the river Add above Kirkmichael Glassary. Thereafter it streamed through an intermediate gap into the Add by the lower end of the Kilmartin valley; and subsequently, when the ice had farther retreated, by the Craig an Tairbh pass itself into the same valley above Kilmartin. During the recession a lobe of ice became detached and occupied the site of Loch Ederline, and was there surrounded by the fluvio-glacial gravels from the melt-water of the glacier. A still farther retreat of the glacier left a lake occupying the south-west part of the existing Loch Awe, the level of which was determined by the