

Peris is over three miles, but the length of the original lake must have been much greater, for not only is there an alluvial expanse stretching above the head of Llyn Peris, but a marshy flat, partly under water and often flooded after heavy rains, extends a good way below the foot of Llyn Padarn. The maximum depth recorded in Llyn Padarn is 94 feet, and in Llyn Peris 114 feet. The outflow of the lakes is by the River Seiont to the Menai Straits.

**Bala Lake**, in Merionethshire, at the head of the river Dee, is larger than any of those surveyed by Dr Jehu, being about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles long by three quarters of a mile broad; and one still larger, **Lake Vyrnwyn**, an old lake artificially enlarged in order to increase the water-supply of Liverpool, was constructed about twenty years ago by building a dam, 1165 feet long, to hold back the head-waters of the Vyrnwyn River, a tributary of the Severn. This lake is capable of holding 2103 million cubic feet of water.

Many lakes of considerable extent exist both in the mountainous <sup>Ireland.</sup> and lowland districts of Ireland, and the number of small lakes is very great. The total area covered by lakes amounts to 711 square miles. Careful surveys have been made by the Admiralty and maps published between the years 1835 and 1854 of the principal lakes, viz. Loughs Neagh, Mask, Corrib, Derg, Ree, and Erne (Upper and Lower), and also of the smaller Lough Derg in County Donegal.

**Lough Neagh**, in the province of Ulster, the largest lake in the British Isles, receives the Upper Bann, the Blackwater, and numerous other streams, and discharges by the Lower Bann into the North Channel at Coleraine. It is 17 miles in length, about 10 miles in breadth, and covers an area of 153 square miles; it lies 48 feet above sea-level, and has a mean depth of 40 feet and a maximum depth of 102 feet. The islands are few and small, and the shores, particularly on the south, are flat and marshy. It lies in a volcanic area in a basin formed by fracture and subsidence. It is well stocked with fish—like trout, char, pullen.<sup>1</sup> Canals extend from Lough Neagh to Belfast, Newry, Tyrone, and Lough Erne.

**Lough Mask**, on the borders of Mayo and Galway, receives the waters of the River Robe, and the surplus waters of Lough Carra to the north-east of it and of Lough Nafoeoy to the west, and is drained by an underground stream into Lough Corrib. It is 35 square miles in area, 10 miles in length by 4 miles in breadth, with a maximum depth of 191 feet. Its elevation above sea-level is about 50 feet.

**Lough Corrib**, lying at an altitude of only 14 feet above sea-level, nearly divides County Galway into two parts. It is very irregular in shape, and contains many islets. It has a maximum depth of 152

<sup>1</sup> For analysis of the water of Lough Neagh, see p. 149.