

number of soundings taken in Loch Ard was 308, the maximum depth being 107 feet. Thus the deepest part of Loch Ard dips two feet below sea-level. The cubic mass of water contained in the loch is estimated at 1,150,000,000 cubic feet, and the mean depth at nearly 44 feet, or 41 per cent. of the maximum depth. The length of the loch is 113 times the maximum depth, and 277 times the mean depth.

Loch Ard proper forms a comparatively simple basin, shoaling from the shores down to the deepest part. The 100-foot depression occupies a central position, and is about three-quarters of a mile in length. The 75-foot depression is over  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles in length, while the principal 50-foot depression, over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length, is separated by a very short interval from a small detached area in the north-western part of the loch at Kinlochard, in which the depth exceeds 50 feet. The 25-foot contour-line is very irregular, and there are four isolated patches in which the depth exceeds 25 feet: the largest one in the southern prolongation at Couligartan has a maximum depth of 39 feet; a second small area occurs between the southern prolongation and the island of Eilean Gorm, in which the maximum depth is 35 feet; the other two areas are situated in the eastern prolongation of the loch, the maximum depth in the eastmost depression near the outlet of the loch being 33 feet, and in the other 39 feet. The soundings taken between Duke Murdoch's castle and Briedach show that the bottom is very irregular. the first sounding gave a depth of 17 feet, followed by 44 feet, then 38 feet, then 23 feet, then 31 feet, the bottom rising on approaching the elevation on which Briedach and a beacon are situated.

The area of the bottom between the shore and the 25-foot contour-line is about 240 acres, or 40 per cent. of the area of the loch; that between the 25- and 50-foot contours is about 154 acres, or 25 per cent., that between the 50- and 75-foot contours is nearly 64 acres, or 11 per cent.; that between the 75- and 100-foot contour-lines is about 78 acres, or 13 per cent.; and that deeper than 100 feet is nearly 65 acres, or 11 per cent.

*Lake of Menteith* (see Plate X.).—The Lake of Menteith resembles Loch Leven somewhat in outline, and in being relatively a very shallow basin. It is also historically related with Loch Leven, since Queen Mary at one time lived within their precincts; the ruins of the Priory on Inchmahome, in which she resided before her removal to France, are of great architectural beauty and antiquarian interest. Its surface is only 55 feet above the sea. Its maximum length is over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, and the maximum width over one mile, the mean width being five-eighths of a mile. Its waters cover an area of 652 acres (over one square mile), and it drains an area  $6\frac{1}{2}$  times greater, or over 4000 acres (nearly  $6\frac{1}{2}$  square miles) The number of soundings taken in the Lake of Menteith was 375, the maximum depth being 77 feet. A small portion of the bottom