LOCHS OF THE ROE BASIN.

The two principal lochs only in this basin, Lochs Cròcach and an Tuirc, were surveyed; the smaller ones could not be sounded from lack of boats.

Loch Cròcach (see Plate XXXVII.).—Loch Cròcach lies about three miles to the north of Loch Inver, and about a mile to the north-west of Loch an Tuirc, into which its waters are discharged. It is most irregular in outline and in conformation, and is studded with islands large and small; indeed the insulosity (*i.e.*, the ratio between the area of the islands and the total area of the loch) is one of its distinguishing characteristics, being probably higher than in any other loch visited by the Lake Survey, the lochs most nearly approaching it in this respect being Lochs Maree and Lomond. The islands are mostly congregated in the large western bay; they are low, heather-covered, and not wooded as in the majority of the lochs in the district. The ground around the loch is low; from 350 to 700 feet above the sea. Loch Cròcach trends north-east and south-west, and is nearly 1½ miles in length and over one-third of a mile (or about 700 yards) in maximum breadth, the mean breadth being about one-sixth of a mile (or rather less than half the maximum breadth). Its waters cover an area of about 160 acres (or one-quarter of a square mile), exclusive of the numerous islands, and it drains an area seven times greater, or 1¾ square miles. Nearly 80 soundings were taken, the maximum depth observed being 71 feet. The volume of water is estimated at 147,987,000 cubic feet, and the mean depth at nearly 17 feet. Loch Cròcach is deeper than the other small lochs in this district. A large 25-feet area occupies the greater portion of the length of the loch to the north-west of the islands; a second smaller area occurs in the south-western expansion of the loch, and a third very small area lies near the south-western end of the loch, based on a sounding of 30 feet. The bottom falls in two places below the 50-feet level, the larger basin being centrally placed, between the entrance of the Uidh nan Lion and the largest of the islands, with a maximum depth of 64 feet, the smaller but deeper basin lying in the south-western expansion of the loch, the maximum depth of 71 feet having been observed quite close to the small island off the