

and Loch Linnhe these muscovite-biotite gneisses have been mapped by the Geological Survey. These schists and gneisses, which are supposed to represent altered sediments, are traversed by numerous veins of pegmatite and dykes of diorite, dolerite, and basalt.

On the watershed between Glen Hurich and Glen Scaddle, on the crest of Sgor Dhomhail (2915 feet), there is a mass of foliated granite, and, further to the south-west, the later igneous intrusions of the Strontian district may enter the Loch Shiel catchment basin.

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#### NOTES ON THE BIOLOGY OF THE LOCHS IN THE SHIEL DISTRICT.

By JAMES MURRAY.

Of the six lochs surveyed, tow-nettings were taken in four, and a shore-netting in a fifth. The biology presented little of special interest. *Diaptomus laciniatus* was found in two of the lochs (Shiel and Eilt); these are the most southerly lochs in which this northern species was observed by the Lake Survey, though it has been recorded by Dr. Scott from one loch (Loch Doon) much farther south.

*Loch Shiel.*—Owing to the great abundance of *Holopedium*, which choked up the nets, it was difficult to collect other animals in any numbers. The most plentiful animals were: *Diaptomus gracilis*, *Diaptomus laciniatus*, *Cyclops strenuus*, *Bosmina obtusirostris*, *Bythotrephes*, *Polyphemus*, six species of pelagic Rotifers (including *Floscularia pelagica*), and *Dinobryon*. The plants noted were. *Xanthidium antilopeum*, *Staurastrum gracile*, and *Staurastrum brazilense*. *Lobelia* and *Littorella* were in flower at the upper end of the loch.

*Loch Dilate.*—As compared with Loch Shiel, the most notable features of this loch were. the greater abundance of life, the absence of *Holopedium* and *Diaptomus laciniatus*, and the presence of *Diaphanosoma brachyurum* in considerable numbers. Among the organisms observed were: *Diaptomus gracilis*, *Cyclops strenuus*, *Synchaeta pectinata*, *Plæsoma truncata*, *Dinobryon*, *Peridinium*, two species of *Ceratium* (*C. hirundinella* and *C. cornutum*), *Anabæna flos aque* with its adherent *Vorticellæ*.

*Loch Eilt.*—Life was abundant, the characteristic animals being *Holopedium*, *Diaptomus laciniatus*, *Cyclops strenuus*, *Anuræa cochlearis*, *Notholca longispina*, and *Polyarthra*. *Leptodora* and *Bythotrephes* were scarce. *Bosmina obtusirostris* and a variety approaching *B. longispina* were seen. The brilliant red and blue Rotifer, *Notops pygmæus*, was plentiful. Some immature specimens of *Diaptomus* probably belonged to *D. gracilis*. On the mud in the deepest part of the loch were numbers of a pretty little green larva of an insect, enclosed in transparent flask-shaped cases.