

LOCHS OF THE KINLOCH BASIN.

THERE are two lochs to be dealt with here, viz. Loch Chaluum and Loch an Dithreibh, the superfluent waters of which are carried into the Kyle of Tongue by the Amhainn Ceann Locha (or Kinloch river). Loch Chaluum is the only one of several small lochs in the basin which could be sounded, and it flows by the Allt an Dithreibh into Loch an Dithreibh. The two lochs form a complete contrast in outline and conformation of the bottom.

Loch Chaluum (see Plate LXXVI.).—Loch Chaluum lies on the south-western flank of Beinn Laoghal, little more than a mile from Loch Cùil na Sìthe in the Borgie basin. It is most irregular in outline and in conformation, with one comparatively large island, and with weeds obstructing many of the bays. Measured in a south-west and north-east direction, it is about three-quarters of a mile in length, with a maximum breadth of half a mile, its waters covering an area of about 96 acres. The maximum depth of 30 feet was observed in the extreme western portion of the loch, the mean depth being estimated at 8 feet, and the volume of water at 33 million cubic feet. The loch was surveyed on September 29, 1902, but the elevation of the lake-surface above the sea could not be determined.

Loch Chaluum is on the whole shallow, only three soundings exceeding 20 feet having been recorded in the most westerly expansion of the loch. There are two 10-foot basins, the principal one extending from the extreme west end of the loch to beyond the island, filling up the south-western expansion of the loch to the south of the island, and enclosing the deepest part of the loch, the smaller one lying in the eastern and south-eastern expansions of the loch, and having a maximum depth of 17 feet. The greater part of the lake-floor is covered by less than 10 feet of water, equal to about 69 acres, or 72 per cent. of the total area.

Temperature Observations.—A series of temperatures was taken in the deepest part of the loch, with the following results:—