

was determined from bench-marks as being 52·6 feet above the sea, and to this datum-level all soundings have been reduced. A levelling-staff was erected first at Fort Augustus, then at Invermoriston, Foyers, and Temple piers, and the height of the water on this staff was read daily during the progress of the survey, so that the variations in level from day to day, and the variations from the starting-point, were readily known. These staff readings showed that the water fell gradually but irregularly, and by April 15 it was 1 foot lower, and by the 18th it was $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet lower, than on April 1.

Loch Ness proper may be said to extend from the head of the loch at Fort Augustus to the narrows at Bona ferry, a distance of $22\frac{3}{4}$ miles following the axis of maximum depth. This figure is inferior to the length of Loch Awe ($25\frac{1}{2}$ miles), and slightly in excess of the length of Loch Lomond ($22\frac{2}{3}$ miles); if we regard the small basin of Loch Dochfour, which is continuous with Loch Ness at its northern end, as forming part of the loch, then the total length from the exit of the river Ness to the head of the loch, is about $24\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

In this place it is proposed to include Loch Dochfour in dealing with Loch Ness; it is a basin about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, with a maximum depth of 50 feet in the wide central portion, whence it narrows towards the two ends, the southern narrows leading into Loch Ness, and the northern termination being divided into two branches, the eastern branch forming the river Ness, and the western branch the continuation of the canal. With a strong south-westerly wind there is a surface current from Loch Ness into Loch Dochfour through the narrows at Bona ferry, and, if long continued, the water becomes banked up in Loch Dochfour, and gives rise to a return current along the bottom into Loch Ness; with a strong wind from the north-east the surface current sets in the opposite direction, *i.e.* from Loch Dochfour into Loch Ness. Cut off from the western margin of Loch Dochfour, by embankments carrying the towing-path for the canal, are two small basins, one called Abban water, having a maximum depth of 9 feet, the other without a distinctive name, having a maximum depth of 23 feet; they stand at the same level as Loch Dochfour, the water evidently percolating through the embankments

Loch Ness may be said to be fairly uniform in breadth, though varying to some extent, but on the whole its shore-line is very regular when compared with other large lochs. The upper portion between Fort Augustus and Foyers for about 10 miles is under a mile in width, except at the opening of Glen Moriston, where the breadth slightly exceeds a mile. The portion between Foyers and Castle Urquhart for about 5 miles is almost exactly a mile in width, while the lower portion between Castle Urquhart and Torr point for about 5 miles exceeds a mile in width. The widest part of the loch is at Urquhart bay, from the mouth of the river Enrick due east to the opposite shore, where the