

On both sides of the valley of the Ness there is abundant evidence of intense glaciation of the region. On the elevated plateau west of the Ness valley the direction of the ice-movement varied from 25° to 35° north of east. The ice that issued from the Great Glen flowed more or less parallel to the long axis of Loch Ness, that is, in a north-easterly direction, but the trend became more easterly as it approached the basin of the Moray firth. There is a widespread covering of boulder clay, with scattered groups of moraines, along the ridge extending from Dores north-east by Culloden moor. There is also a remarkable development of fluvio-glacial gravels, high river terraces, and remains of raised beaches at the mouth of Loch Ness, on both sides of the valley of the Ness, and on the south shore of the Beauuly firth.

Loch Ashie is a shallow lake surrounded by drift, with a fine series of moraines on its eastern side. Loch Laide also occupies a hollow in the drift, with small exposures of crystalline schists in places near its margin. Loch Abban lies in a hollow in the stratified deposits at the mouth of Loch Ness, which may be of fluvial origin.

NOTES ON THE BIOLOGY OF THE LOCHS OF THE NESS BASIN.

By JAMES MURRAY.

Collections of plankton were made in twenty-seven lochs in this basin. With the exception of the lochs in the Great Glen itself, most of these lochs are at a considerable elevation, occupying the high tableland on the east of Loch Ness, or the higher mountainous tract on the west.

The situation of the lochs in two alpine masses, separated by the deep cleft of the Great Glen, gives rise to some peculiarities in distribution, most marked in the species of *Diaptomus* and the more conspicuous plankton Desmids.

A number of species were only collected on one side of the Great Glen. These peculiarities are probably due to the fact that the lochs to the east of Loch Ness were surveyed in spring or early summer, when the water was still cold, while those to the west were surveyed after midsummer, when they were about at the maximum temperature.

Diaptomus gracilis was here, as elsewhere, almost universal, but was not seen in several of the eastern lochs.

D. laticeps was in Loch Ness and the other lochs in the Great Glen. It was not seen in any loch to the west, but was frequent in lochs to the east of Loch Ness. In Loch Ness the blue *Diaptomus* (identified by