

LOCHS OF THE GRUINARD BASIN.

WITHIN this basin eight lochs were sounded by the Lake Survey, viz. Lochs na Sheallag, Fionn, Dubh, Beannach, na Mòine Buige, Eileach Mhic'ille Riabhaich, Fada, and na Beiste. The drainage basin under consideration (see Index Map, Fig. 3) extends from the mouth of Gruinard bay (between Stattic Point on the east and Creag an Eilean on the west) to the heights of Beinn Tarsuinn, Mullach Coire Mhic Fhearchair, and Beinn Bheag, and includes numerous small lochs which could not be surveyed for lack of boats. As measured by the planimeter on the 1-inch Ordnance Survey maps the total area of this basin is about 117 square miles, of which considerably more than one-half, or over $66\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, drain into the lochs under consideration, as will be seen in the summary table. Loch na Sheallag flows directly into Gruinard bay by the river Gruinard, as does Loch Fada by the Allt Bad an Luig, and Loch na Beiste by the Allt Udrigill, while the remaining lochs mentioned form a connected series, whose waters are carried into Gruinard bay by the Little Gruinard river, Loch Dubh adjoining the head of Loch Fionn, Lochan Beannach flowing into Loch Fionn about midway down the western shore, Loch na Mòine Buige flowing in at the head of Loch Fionn, while Loch Eileach Mhic'ille Riabhaich carries the outflow from Loch Fionn into the Little Gruinard river.

Loch na Sheallag (see Plate XVI.).—Loch na Sheallag is situated about 9 miles to the north-east of Loch Maree, amid wild and magnificent scenery, the head of the loch lying between the heights of An Teallach (Bidein a' Ghlas Thuill—3483 feet, and Sgùrr Fhiona—3474 feet) on the north-east, and of Beinn Dearg—2974 feet—on the south-west. It contains salmon, sea trout, river trout, and char, but the fishing is preserved. The loch trends in a south-east and north-west direction, and is $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length. It is broadest towards the south-eastern (inflow) end, where the maximum width of over two-thirds of a mile occurs, narrowing gradually towards the outflow end. Its waters cover an area of about 876 acres, or over $1\frac{1}{3}$ square miles, and it drains an area 27 times greater—an area of about 37 square miles. The maximum depth of 217 feet was observed in the wider part of the loch, about a mile from the south-east end. The volume of water is estimated at 3948 millions