

LOCHS OF THE CARRON BASIN.

THERE are two Carron rivers in Ross-shire, one flowing into the Dornoch firth on the east coast, the other into Loch Carron on the west coast. The latter is the one under consideration ; it rises at the head of Glen Carron, and in its course passes through Lochs Sgamhain and Dhùghaill, which are here to be described. The scenery is grand and mountainous, and the fishing in the lochs, which is preserved, includes salmon, sea-trout, *salmo ferox*, and char.

Loch Sgamhain (see Plate XXI.).—Loch Sgamhain (or Scaven) lies near the head of Glen Carron, with Beinn na Feusaige (2000 feet) rising on the north, and Moruisg (3026 feet) on the south, and distant only about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Loch Gown in the Conon basin, belonging to the eastern drainage system. The loch trends in a north-east and south-west direction, and exceeds a mile in length by one-third of a mile in maximum breadth. Its waters cover an area of about 141 acres, and it drains an area of $7\frac{1}{2}$ square miles. The maximum depth of 72 feet was observed near the centre of the loch. The volume of water is estimated at 165 million cubic feet, and the mean depth at nearly 27 feet. The loch was surveyed on August 8, 1902, when the elevation was found to be 491.6 feet above the sea, as compared with 490.9 feet observed by the Ordnance Survey officers on August 12, 1870.

The shores of the loch are comparatively simple, but near the west end a considerable promontory known as Cnoc nan Sguad projects into the loch from the northern shore. There are two small islands in the centre of the loch, opposite Cnoc nan Sguad ; between the islands and the promontory a depth of 32 feet was recorded, but between the islands and the southern shore the depth does not exceed 12 feet. The 25-feet basin extends nearly from end to end of the loch, but is very narrow in its western portion. The wide eastern portion encloses the 50-feet basin, which occupies a central position, and is about one-third of a mile in length, approaching close to the promontory of Cnoc nan Sguad on its eastern side. The area of the lake-floor covered by less than 25 feet of water is about 75 acres, or 53 per cent. of the total area.

Loch Dhùghaill (see Plate XXII.).—Loch Dhùghaill (or Doule) lies about 4 miles from the head of Loch Carron, and about 6 miles south-west of Loch Sgamhain. It is surrounded by lofty mountains, Fuar Tholl