

## LOCHS OF THE ALSH BASIN.

THE area draining into Loch Alsh and its two branches—Loch Duich and Loch Long—is an extensive one, but only three small lochs within the basin were sounded by the Lake Survey. The two more important ones, Loch na Leitreach and Loch a' Bhealaich, drain by the River Elchaig into the head of Loch Long; while the third and smallest one, Loch Anna, drains into the Allt Gleann Udalain, which flows into Loch Alsh on its northern shore. The large area draining into Loch Duich is almost entirely devoid of lakes. The scenery of the district is grand and mountainous, many of the peaks exceeding 3000, and some of them exceeding 3500, feet in height.

*Loch na Leitreach* (see Plate XXIII).—Loch na Leitreach lies about six miles east of the head of Loch Long, and about the same distance north-east of the head of Loch Duich. It trends in a south-west and north-east direction, and is widest towards the north-eastern end, narrowing gradually towards the outflow at the south-western end. It exceeds a mile in length, with a maximum breadth of one-fifth of a mile, the superficial area being about 84 acres. The area draining into it is about 12 square miles, including Loch Muirichinn (not surveyed) lying at the head of the glen at a high elevation. The maximum depth of 88 feet was observed near the middle of the loch. The volume of water is estimated at 147 million cubic feet, and the mean depth at over 40 feet. The formation of the main basin is simple, the deeper water occupying the wide upper portion of the loch, a depth of 65 feet having been recorded close to the upper end, and the maximum depth of 88 feet about half a mile down the loch. Near the south-west end a depth of 31 feet was found, separated from the main basin by depths of 14 and 15 feet.

The loch was surveyed on October 10, 1904, when the elevation was supposed to be about 275.3 feet above the sea, that is to say, the water just covered the position indicated on the 6-inch Ordnance Survey map for a bench-mark placed at that altitude on the south side of the road at the north angle of the loch. The temperature of the water was practically uniform, the reading at the surface being 46<sup>o</sup>.2 Fahr., and at a depth of 80 feet 46<sup>o</sup>.0.

*Loch a' Bhealaich* (see Plate XXIV).—Loch a' Bhealaich lies about 4½ miles east of the head of Loch Duich, and 3½ miles south of Loch na