

## LOCHS OF THE BLADENOCH BASIN.

WITHIN the area drained by the river Bladenoch five lochs were sounded by the Lake Survey, viz. Lochs Maberry, Fyntalloch, Ochiltree, Castle, and Mochrum. The three first-mentioned lochs lie towards the headwaters of the basin on the borders of Ayrshire and Wigtownshire, the boundary-line crossing Loch Maberry, while the two last-mentioned lochs are situated near the eastern shore of Luce bay. The river Bladenoch rises in Loch Maberry, and after a course of some 3 miles is joined by the Beoch Burn, bearing the overflow from Lochs Fyntalloch and Ochiltree, while the Water of Malzie, bearing the outflow from Castle and Mochrum Lochs, falls into the Bladenoch about 4 miles before entering Wigtown bay, at the town of Wigtown. Except the Loch of Fyntalloch, the lochs are of fair size, three of them exceeding a mile in length, but they are mostly very shallow, only Loch Ochiltree exceeding 15 feet in depth.

*Loch Maberry* (see Plate XL).—Loch Maberry lies about 10 miles north-west of Newton Stewart, and trends nearly north and south. It is considerably over a mile in length, with a maximum breadth of nearly half a mile, the mean breadth being a quarter of a mile. The southern portion of the loch for a quarter of a mile is narrow, but the main body is nearly uniform in width. The superficial area is about 175 acres, or over a quarter of a square mile, of which 67 per cent. is covered by less than 10 feet of water. The western and southern portions of the loch are shallow, the deepest part running along the eastern shore, where the maximum depth of 14 feet was recorded. The volume of water is estimated at 56 million cubic feet, and the mean depth at over 7 feet, while the drainage area extends to  $7\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. The loch was surveyed on August 17, 1903, when the elevation was found to be 388.7 feet above the sea; when visited by the officers of the Ordnance Survey on July 20, 1893, the elevation was 387.2 feet above sea-level. The temperature of the surface water was  $60^{\circ}\cdot 0$  Fahr., and at a depth of 10 feet  $59^{\circ}\cdot 0$ .

*Loch of Fyntalloch* (see Plate XL).—The Loch of Fyntalloch stands close to, and at the same level as, Loch Ochiltree, into which it drains by a stream only some 50 yards long. The length from north-west to