

LOCHS OF THE CREE BASIN.

THE river Cree, one of the largest streams entering the Solway Firth on the Scottish side, drains an extensive mountainous region lying chiefly in the county of Kirkcudbright (see Index Map, Fig. 12). There are a good many lochs in the basin, but owing to lack of boats it was possible to survey only three of them. Loch Trool, the largest loch in the basin, lies in Glen Trool, between the mountains Merrick and Lamachan, Loch Dornal lies between Ayrshire and Wigtownshire, and Loch Kirriereoch is near the head of the Water of Minnoch, and close to the Ayrshire border in Kirkcudbrightshire. Lochs Moan, Neldricken, and Valley are considerable lochs, which could not be surveyed.

Loch Dornal (see Plate XLII.).—Loch Dornal lies about 8 miles north-west from Newton-Stewart, among rough moorland. The shores are of stones and peat, with rock exposed at several places. There are many small islands and boulders throughout the loch, which is of very irregular form, shallow and flat-bottomed, 10 feet in maximum depth, and 5 feet in mean depth. The length is two-thirds of a mile, and the breadth one-third of a mile. The superficial area is about 110 acres, and the volume of water 26 millions of cubic feet. The drainage area is $2\frac{1}{2}$ square miles. The only stream entering is the Corwar burn, and the outflow is by the Carrick burn, eastward to the river Cree.

The surface on August 17, 1903, was 386·2 feet above sea-level, or a foot higher than the elevation determined by the Ordnance Survey on July 12, 1893, viz. 385·2 feet. The temperature of the water was 59°·5 Fahr. throughout.

Loch Kirriereoch (see Plate XLII.).—A very small and nearly square loch, lying on elevated moorland, nearly 700 feet above sea-level, and 12 miles north of Newton-Stewart. The shores are chiefly of gravel with boulders, while a deep bed of peat forms the east side. It measures a quarter of a mile long, by one-fifth of a mile broad, and is 15 feet in maximum depth. The mean depth is 7 feet, the area about 16 acres, and the volume of water 5 millions of cubic feet. The drainage area is small. Though the loch is close to the Water of Minnoch, the outflow is into the Kirriemore burn, which joins the Minnoch about a mile to the south. The temperature on August 15, 1903, was 56°·8 Fahr. throughout.