

LOCHS OF THE LUNAN BASIN

THE area draining by the Lunan water (see Index Map, Fig. 16) into Lunan bay, on the east coast of Scotland, between Arbroath and Montrose, includes three small lochs sounded by the Lake Survey, viz. Lochs Fithie, Rescobie, and Balgavies. They lie towards the head-waters of the Lunan, 10 miles or more from the sea, and 2 to 5 miles east of the town of Forfar, forming a series trending generally in an east and west direction. Rescobie Loch, the central one of the series, is the largest, though Balgavies Loch, the easternmost, is the deepest, Loch Fithie, the westernmost, being the smallest in every respect. The lochs contain trout, perch, pike, and eels, but the fishing is preserved.

Loch Fithie (see Plate LI.) is situated less than 2 miles east of Forfar, surrounded by woods. There was a fringe of bushes nearly all round some distance out in the water, and a prickly water-weed was very abundant all over the loch, floating at times, but dredged also from the deepest part of the loch. The length is nearly half a mile, and the width nearly uniform, only about 150 yards, the superficial area being about 21 acres, of which about 70 per cent. is covered by less than 10 feet of water, while in the eastern part of the loch there is a basin exceeding 10 feet in depth, with a maximum depth of 16 feet in its central part. The volume of water is estimated at 7 million cubic feet, and the mean depth at $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The loch was surveyed on June 30, 1903, when the elevation was 215.5 feet above the sea. The water rises and falls considerably, a drift-mark being observed about 5 feet above the water, which was high at the time of the survey, and might fall to the extent of several feet. The inflow is at the east end on the southern shore, but there is no known outflow. The temperature of the water was nearly uniform throughout, the readings at the surface and at 10 feet being 62.2 Fahr., and at 15 feet 62.1.

Rescobie Loch (see Plate LI.) lies about 3 miles east of Forfar, surrounded by cultivated fields, with a strip of wood on the north shore at the east end. The loch is $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles in length, by one-third of a mile in maximum breadth, the mean breadth being one-fifth of a mile. The superficial area is about 158 acres, or a quarter of a square mile, of which about 57 per cent. is covered by less than 10 feet of water. The