

Westmoreland, and of these the most important are Ullswater, Derwentwater, and Windermere. Ullswater is about nine miles in length, and two in its greatest breadth. It may be described as a long narrow body of water, situated in a scenery remarkable for its beauty and grandeur. Helvellyn and the Stone Cross Pike, the two highest mountains in the district, come fully into view as the traveller passes down the lake. Derwentwater is not inferior in grandeur, though its character is exceedingly different from that of Ullswater; and the mountains by which it is surrounded are more broken and rugged. Around this spot there is a charm which is irresistible, for here nature wears an enchanter's robe, and is painted in her most fantastic colours. But Windermere is the largest of the English lakes, though it is not more than ten miles and a half long, and two miles broad. It is surrounded with beautifully wooded hills, and on the north a fine range of mountains forms the back-ground.

But none of the English lakes can be in any way compared with the Scotch, and particularly with the romantic Loch Lomond. The solemn stillness of the dark waters, and the proud aspiring summit of Ben Lomond and its elevated companions, produce reflections in the mind of an observer not to be easily forgotten. Who that has read Wordsworth's exquisite lines "To a Highland Girl," does not desire to read them on the spot where they were written? And who that has done so, does not desire a repetition of the delight?—

"And these gray rocks; this household lawn;  
 These trees, a veil just half withdrawn;  
 This fall of water, that doth make  
 A murmur near the silent lake:  
 This little bay, a quiet road  
 That holds in shelter thy abode;  
 In truth, together do ye seem  
 Like something fashioned in a dream,  
 Such forms as from their covert peep,  
 When earthly cares are laid asleep!"

Lakes differ greatly in their depth, and in the character of the water they contain. The water of some is exceedingly pure and transparent, that of others is salt, brackish, or sweet; and there are some which emit noxious exhalations, destructive or injurious to animal life. Many lakes are no