

seems to be stratified boulder-drift, in which cases it would appear that glaciers descended to the level of the sea, and deposited their moraines there, and, breaking up, floated about as icebergs bearing boulders. By-and-by, the glacier that was produced by the drainage of snow disappeared, and is now represented by water, forming a lake dammed by a moraine, outside of which lie long smooth slopes of stratified drift. In the majority of cases, however, as already stated, I believe that most of these small lakes are only partly blocked in by moraine matter, and that, like some of the large lakes of both sides of the Alps which have moraines at their outlets, even if these moraines were removed they would be found to be entirely enclosed by solid rock formations.

Such lakes in Wales are always on a small scale, but there are others on a larger scale, having a far more important bearing upon the physical geography of our country and of many other countries in the northern hemisphere, and I have no doubt also in the south. The theory which I propound is my own, and in its first conception is not now much more than seventeen years old. It gave rise at the time to a considerable amount of opposition, and also to some approval.¹

There is no point in physical geography more difficult

¹ See 'The Old Glaciers of Switzerland and North Wales,' 1860. Soon after the special paper was published in the 'Journal of the Geological Society' in 1862, it was with satisfaction that I received a letter from Dr. Julius Haast, stating that the theory perfectly applied to many of the lakes in New Zealand, and that he had adopted it after the perusal of my paper. See also on the 'Erosion of Valleys and Lakes,' 'Philosophical Magazine,' 1864, and 'Sir Charles Lyell and the Glacial Theory of Lake Basins,' 'Philosophical Magazine,' 1865.