

Mr. John Murray, have made known a far greater profundity than was ever before obtained. These observers have found that in Loch Morar, the great tranverse glen-lake of Arisaig, the surface of which is only about 30 feet above the sea, there is a depth of no less than 175 fathoms or 1050 feet. The sea-bottom immediately outside is nowhere nearly so deep as this extraordinary depression. The greatest depth recorded on the Admiralty charts of this part of the Scottish seas is one of 139 fathoms between the islands of Rum and Skye. But, so far as I can ascertain, not until we get westwards beyond the platform of the British Islands and begin to descend into the great basin of the Atlantic

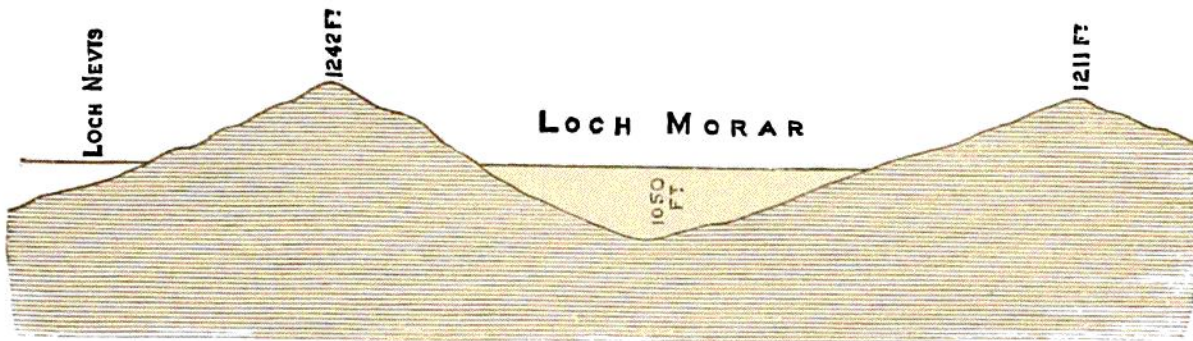


FIG. 53.—Section across Loch Morar, on the same scale (one inch to a mile) for breadth and depth.

Ocean is a depth of 170 fathoms reached. Loch Morar appears to be the deepest known hollow on any part of the European plateau except the submarine valley which skirts the southern part of Scandinavia.

The remarkable association of ravines with open meadow-like expansions of the valley above them has been already referred to (p. 178). It is noticeable that in not a few instances the expansion is occupied by a glen-lake. Many instances might be cited, such as the defile of the Trossachs with Loch Katrine above it, and the Pass of Leny, with Loch Lubnaig. This feature furnishes another piece of evidence in favour of the origin of such lakes by