

### 15. EDINBURGH OR GLASGOW BY CALEDONIAN CANAL TO INVERNESS

For this journey a choice of routes is available as far as Oban : viz. (1) by railway ; (2) by steamer through the Kyles of Bute and the Crinan Canal ; (3) by sea-going steamer round the Mull of Cantyre ; (4) by steamer up Loch Fyne, or by coach from the head of the Holy Loch or the head of Loch Goil to Inverary, and thence by coach to the line of railway at Dalmally. Each of these routes has its own attractions ; but only the first two, which are the more usual, need be referred to here.

(1.) **By Railway.**—The route as far as Callander has been already described (p. 449). Beyond that village the line enters the narrow Pass of Leny, and on emerging from its upper end skirts the shores of Loch Lubnaig [239]. To the left rise the rugged slopes of Ben Ledi [212]. On the farther side the same massive rocks are prolonged into the heights of Stuc-a-Chroin and Ben Vorlich. One of the Tertiary dykes comes from Ben Lomond over the north shoulder of Ben Ledi and crosses the middle of Loch Lubnaig [149]. Vast piles of boulders are strewn about the hill-slopes at the head of Strath Ire. The line of railway keeps far up the slope above the end of Loch Earn, and commands a good view of that sheet of water and the northern slopes of Ben Vorlich. It then turns up Glen Ogle and has been carried through a line of shattered crags of schist until it turns into Glen Dochart. Leaving the Killin Station the upper end of Loch Tay may be seen far to the right, with the huge mass of Ben Lawers [135] towering above it. For some miles beyond this point the most striking feature to be seen from the railway is the great abundance of the moraine mounds that are scattered across the valley. The mountains on either side exceed 3000 feet in elevation, and must have been important gathering grounds for the snow that fed the glaciers which filled up Glen Dochart. From **Orianlarich**, a pleasant walk down Glen Falloch will bring the traveller to the head of Loch Lomond and to the route already described at p. 446.

Descending Strath Fillan, the traveller meets with continued evidence of ice-action until, approaching Tyndrum, he comes