

upon the noble series of moraines which have been thrown down at the mouth of the glen that descends from the great corry on the eastern front of Ben Laoigh (3708 feet). The watershed of the country being crossed at a height of 874 feet, the railway turns down the valley of the Lochy amid a succession of moraine mounds and alluvial terraces. Beyond Dalmally it crosses the wide delta which the Orchy and Strae have formed at this end of Loch Awe, and then skirts the western shores of that noble sheet of water, turning westward into the arm that discharges the drainage of the lake through the Pass of Brander [238]. The railway runs too close under the slopes of Ben Cruachan (3611 feet) to allow the imposing form and mass of that mountain to be appreciated; but as the traveller moves down Loch Etive and looks back he obtains from time to time a good view of the great Ben, so prominent a landmark in the Western Highlands. He will notice, too, the marked contrast of foregrounds when he leaves the schists and granites and enters upon the volcanic rocks of the Old Red Sandstone which extend along both sides of Loch Etive. The terraced forms of these younger rocks are particularly marked on Ben Lora, which rises as the outer eminence on the north side of the loch. **Connal Ferry** is the place from which the curious tidal waterfall may be seen [184]. On the north side of the loch at this point there is a fine example of the 50-feet raised beach [221], which here extends as a broad platform almost across the loch, and is partly covered with peat. The railway now turns inland, and, running through a picturesque district of crags and knolls formed of the volcanic rocks of the Old Red Sandstone series, makes a wide bend and descends to the pier at Oban.

(2.) **By Steamer through the Kyles of Bute and the Crinan Canal.**—The more prominent features of the Firth of Clyde have been already (p. 450) described. The traveller who takes the usual water-route to Oban has an excellent opportunity of noting them. If the day is clear he may see the whole range of Highland hills from Ben Lomond to the Cobbler, and through Argyll's Bowling Green to the rounded slate-hills above Dunoon [211]. The terraced volcanic ridges of Renfrewshire and Ayrshire rise from the eastern side of the Firth, while to the south the cone of Goatfell [181] forms a conspicuous object. The Kyles (narrows) of Bute are a fjord-like