

passage between Bute and the mainland, consisting of two arms which meet at the northern end of the island, and are prolonged northward into the inlet of Loch Riden [248]. The lines of raised beach are well marked in the bays, also the contrast between the smooth outlines of the soft slate-hills at the entrance, and the more rugged forms of the harder grits to the north. The glaciation of the islets is likewise well preserved. Rounding Ardlamont Point, passengers have a good view of the granite hills of Arran. Loch Fyne is then entered [171, 184, 249, 251, 275, 276], the first halting-place being **Tarbert**, which is the point on the mainland whence communication is kept up with Islay and Jura [207]. At **Ardrishaig** there is a transhipment to the canal-boat which is in readiness to convey passengers and their luggage through the Crinan Canal. This traverse allows the observer to remark the numerous harder bands of grit and diabase which are bedded with the schists, and which protrude as ribs along the hillsides. He will also notice the wide peat-covered platform of raised beach which covers so much of the ground to the north of the line of canal. At Crinan another steamer is in waiting, and soon makes its way out of Loch Crinan into the Sound of Jura. To the south the Paps of Jura [207] are the most conspicuous heights. The numerous long parallel lines of promontories and islands mark the influence of the north-east and south-west strike of the rocks [171]. Passing through the Sound of Scarba, we come in sight of the range of the volcanic hills of Mull closing in the horizon to the north. The terraced hills of Lorn rise behind the islands, and are well seen around Loch Feochan. Keeping in the narrow channel between Kerrera and the mainland, the steamer at last wheels into the land-locked Bay of Oban.

**Oban** is by far the best centre for excursions in the West Highlands. Among the more instructive and interesting to the student of topography and lover of scenery the following may be recommended :—

(1.) To Kerrera—Volcanic rocks of Old Red Sandstone resting on slates. Good views of the Mull Mountains and of the hills behind Oban.

(2.) Falls of Loch Etive [184], the raised beach of Connal Ferry [184], and the prolongation of the Lorn volcanic rocks in Ben Lora.