

156 feet. Loch Fyne, about eight miles below Inverary, is 414 feet deep, and is very much shallower 15 miles further down, while in Loch Etive, near Oban, the whole theory is brought prominently before the eye, as shown in the accompanying picture, fig. 95.

The mouth of this sea loch or fiord at Connel Ferry is so narrow, that it seems as if a stone might almost be thrown across, but further up it spreads into a noble sheet of water, and its length is about 20 miles, and its greatest depth 456 feet. When the tide is up, on a quiet day, all is still and unruffled from end to end; but as the tide falls the water gets troubled across the mouth of the fiord, two rocky islets begin to appear, and by-and-by, standing on the *roche moutonnée* in the foreground, it becomes plain that a rocky barrier traverses the fiord from side to side, over which the outflowing sea falls with a roar that may be heard for a mile or more.<sup>1</sup> If the region were raised for a few feet, Loch Etive, by influx of rivers, would by degrees become changed into a freshwater lake, like its neighbouring tributary rock-bound basin Loch Awe, which is 306 feet deep where deepest. Here then is what may be called a demonstration of the glacial origin of many rock-bound fiord basins, unless we can persuade ourselves to believe that all the great fiords of Scotland, Norway, Greenland, and North and South America, were by some special operation upheaved at their mouths, no matter how the inlets trend, so that some day when these countries may be further elevated, the fiords shall all be converted into inland rock-bound freshwater lakes!<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Coruisk in Skye is another case in point on a smaller scale.

<sup>2</sup> The Lakes of Maggiore and Como were once fiords. Long