

on earth ; such as the lake of St. Lawrence ; the lake Chiamé, whence spring two great rivers that water the kingdoms of Asam and Pegu ; the lake of Assiniboil in America ; those of Oзера in Muscovy, that give rise to the river Bog, those which produce the Irtis, and a great number of others. These lakes, it is evident, must be produced by the waters from the high lands passing through subterraneous passages, and collecting in the lowest places. Some indeed have asserted that lakes are to be found on the summit of the highest mountains ; but to this no credit can be given, for those found on the Alps, and other elevated places, are all surrounded by much more lofty mountains, and derive their origin from the waters which run down the sides, or are filtered through those eminences in the same manner as the lakes in the plains obtain their sources from the neighbouring hills which overtop them.

We are therefore to expect, and in fact we find, lakes in the bowels of the earth, especially under large plains and extensive vallies. Mountains, hills, and all eminences have either a perpendicular or inclined situation, and are exposed