In the pent-up lakes which have no apparent outlet—such as the Dead Sea and the Lake of Aral—the degree of saltness has considerably increased. Numerous experiments have shown that the waters of the Dead Sea are salter than those of Ocean. Messrs. Boutron and Henry analyzed them, after the rainy season in April 1850, at about two leagues from the mouth of the Jordan; their specific gravity was then 1.10. A kilogramme * of the water contained :

Chloride of sodium, ...	110.03	grammes.
Chloride of potassium, ...	1.06	,,
Chloride of magnesium, ...	16.96	,,
Chloride of calcium, ...	6.80	,,
Sulphate of soda, magnesia, and anhydrous lime, ...	2.33	,,
Earthy carbonates, ...	9.53	,,
Silica and organic matter, ...	2.00	,,
Bromide, azotate, and oxide of iron,...	Traces.	
	149.31	,,

Specimens of the same water, add Boutron and Henry, have given on analysis much higher numbers for the quantity of saline residuum left by evaporation. Thus, out of 1000 parts Klaproth obtained a residuum of 426 parts ; Marcet, 245.8 ; Lavoisier, Macquer, and Sage, 433.75 ; Gay-Lussac, 462.4 ; Lieutenant Lynch, 264.187. These results are easily understood if we remember that the saltness of the Dead Sea must necessarily diminish after the rainy season, during which it receives a great quantity of fresh water from the Jordan and other streams.

Some analyses of water of the Dead Sea, taken up in April 1862 near the mouth of the Jordan, were made in 1863 by M. Roux, and gave the result of 200 grammes of salt to a litre. No mineral water, if we except that of the Utah lake, is so impregnated with saline substances. The quantity of bromide of magnesium is 0.35 grammes per litre. According to these figures, the water of the Dead Sea must be the richest natural reservoir of the bromides, and can furnish an abundant supply of these medicinally useful salts.

The waters of the great lake of Utah, and those of Lake Urumiyah in Persia, also possess a remarkable salinity. In Lake Urumiyah, as in the Dead Sea, the proportion of salts is six times greater than that of ocean : a man may float on its surface without making the slightest auxiliary movement.

It is probable that many of our fresh-water lakes were originally salt, but have gradually lost their saltness through the mixture of their waters with those of the

* Equal to 2.20462 lbs. avoirdupois. A gramme is equal to .00220462 lbs. avoirdupois.