

observed pushing forward its delta composed of successive sloping layers of sediment (ante, p. 671). On a shelving bank, the coarser detritus may repose directly upon the solid rock of the district (Fig. 139). But as it advances into the lake, it may come to rest upon some older lacus-

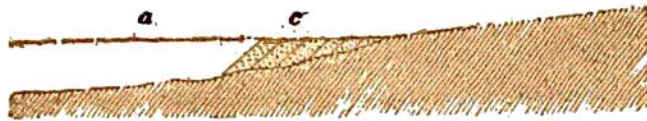


Fig. 139.—Section of a delta-cone pushed by a brook into a lake.

trine deposit (Fig. 140). The river Linth since 1860 has annually discharged into Lake Wallenstadt some 62,000 cubic metres of detritus.

A river which flows through a succession of lakes cannot carry much sediment to the sea, unless it has a long course

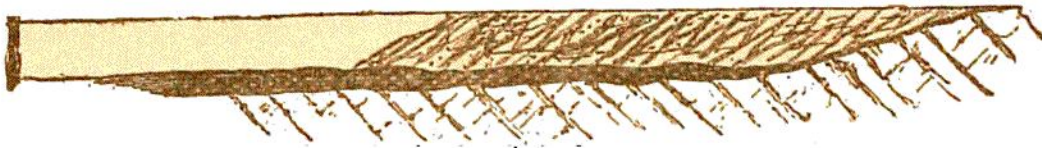


Fig. 140.—Stream-detritus pushed forward over a previous lacustrine silt (B.).

to run after it has passed the lowest lake, and receives one or more muddy tributaries (see p. 671). Let us suppose, for example, that, in a hilly region, a stream passes through a series of lakes (as *a*, *b*, *c*, in Fig. 141). As the highest

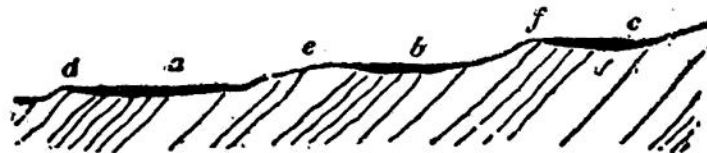


Fig. 141.—Filling up of a succession of lakes (B.).

lake will intercept much, perhaps all, of this sediment, the next in succession will receive little or none until the first is either filled up or has been drained by the cutting of a gorge through the intervening rock at *f*. The same process