

Lucerne, traversed by the river Reuss, which fills three basins, without counting the two lateral lakes that also communicate with it. In America, the five grand lakes of Canada seem to be in reality the successive basins of the broad and extended channel of the river St. Lawrence. In Russia, Lakes Ladoga, Onega, Saïma, Bielo, and Ilmen, communicate, by rivers, with one another as well as with the Lake of Finland.

Lakes whence issue rivers are frequently fed only by subterranean springs. Such is the case with Lake Seligher, which gives

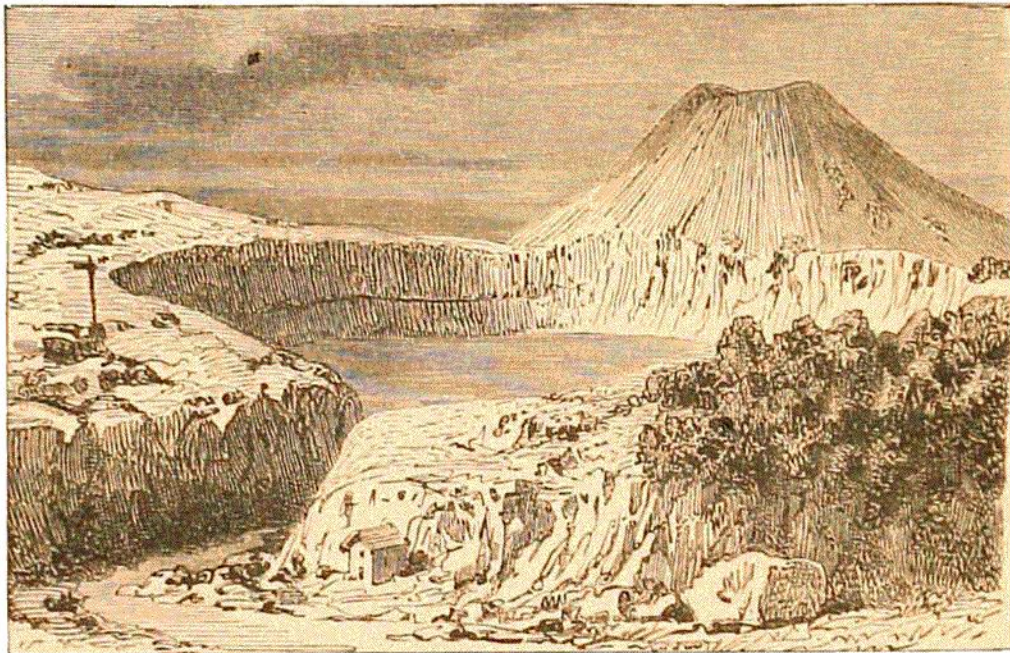


FIG. 104. —LAKE PAVIN, IN AUVERGNE.

birth to the Volga; the Koukou-Noor, at the foot of the mountain-range of the Thian-Chan, whence flows the Yellow River; and the Rawana-Hrada, on the northern slope of the Himalayas, the source of an affluent of the Indus. Usually, these lakes are of small dimensions and situated at a very lofty level, like that of Monte Rotondo, in Corsica, or the Cader-Idris, in Wales. But the contrary prevails when a lake receives a river without throwing off any stream of water. Then, of two things, one or the other must happen: either the waters pass away through subterranean ducts, or the evaporation is so great as to balance the quantity of water received. Sometimes both causes act together.