Caspian, well illustrates, as I have long believed, the method of accumulation of the great salt formations of geological times. In western New York, in certain regions great beds of rock salt may be reached by boring to a certain depth. They lie underneath solid sheets of limestone and thick beds of shale. In the vicinity of Goderich, Ontario, and also in Michigan at sundry localities—Marine City, St. Clair, Alpena on the east shore, and Manistee, Muskegon and Ludington on the west shore—vast deposits of rock salt are found, at depths from a thousand to two thousand feet. The best of evidence exists that the salt bed is the same on opposite sides of the state, and extends continuously under the state. This is also, the formation which supplies brine for the works at Syracuse.

Another salt formation occurs in Michigan, occupying a higher geological position than that just mentioned. The first is the Salina formation in the Upper Silurian (see Table, p. 73); this is the Michigan Salt Group, in the Lower Carboniferous. From the last, the wonderful supplies of the Saginaw valley are mostly obtained. From the Salina formation the supplies eclipse even those of the upper group. At Marine City, on the St. Clair river, a delightful steamboat ride from Detroit, are works of astonishing magnitude and productiveness. The great salt industry of Cheshire, England, is supported by beds of rock salt sixty to a hundred feet thick, and underlying strata of clay and gypsum, and having indurated clays and gypseous beds underneath. Much of the salt is mixed with earthy materials, and hence is redissolved in sea-water, settled and re-evaporated. Other salt deposits of world-wide celebrity occur in Poland, Austria, and Germany. The boring at Stassfurt, Germany, penetrated 1,066 feet of rock salt, and that at Sperenberg, 5,084 feet without reaching the bottom.

It appears, therefore, that the evaporation of sea-water has taken place on a large scale in various ages of the world. In many localities the salt has been again dissolved by fresh water from the surface, and porous formations underlying have