

may take place. Of these the most interesting and extensive are those of iron-ore, which chiefly occur in northern latitudes (pp. 254, 810).¹⁹⁷

5th. Lakes furnish an abode for a lacustrine fauna and flora, receive the remains of the plants and animals washed down from the surrounding country, and entomb these organisms in the growing deposits, so as to preserve a record of the lacustrine and terrestrial life of the period during which they continue. Besides the more familiar pond-snails and fishes, lakes possess a peculiar pelagic fauna, consisting in large measure of entomostracous crustaceans, distinguished more especially by their transparency.¹⁹⁸ These, as well as the organisms of shallower water, doubtless furnish calcareous materials for the mud or marl of the lake bottoms. But it is as receptacles of sediment from the land, and as localities for the preservation of a portion of the terrestrial fauna and flora, that lakes present their chief interest to a geologist. Their deposits consist of alternations of sand, silt, mud, gravel, and occasional irregular seams of vegetable matter, together with layers of calcareous marl formed of lacustrine shells, *Entomostraca*, etc. (p. 812). In lakes receiving much sediment, little or no marl can accumulate during the time when sediment is being deposited. In small, clear, and not very deep lakes, on the other hand, where there is little sediment, or where it only comes occasionally at intervals of flood, thick beds of white marl, formed entirely of organic remains, may gather on the bottom, as has happened in numerous districts of Scotland

¹⁹⁷ For an elaborate paper on these lake-ores (*See-erze*), see Stapff, Z. Deutsch. Geol. Ges. xviii. pp. 86-173; also A. F. Thoreld, Geol. Fören. Stockholm. Forh. iii. p. 20; and postea, Section iii.

¹⁹⁸ F. A. Forel, Archives d. Sciences, Sept. 1882. O. E. Imhof, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., 1884, p. 69.