

# SUMMARY OF OUR KNOWLEDGE REGARDING VARIOUS LIMNOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

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## INTRODUCTION

ON a visit to Copenhagen in July 1909 Sir John Murray asked me to give him my views on matters connected with fresh-water lakes, their variations with latitude, and other physical and chemical conditions, as also regarding the variation of the organic life, especially the plankton, from pole to pole.

It must be remembered that a detailed review of the variations in the outer conditions (*i.e.* variations in the physical and chemical conditions of the lakes) from the pole to the equator would be the same as an account of the general geography of the lakes; this can hardly be done satisfactorily at present, at any rate not by the author, as he does not have sufficient mastery over all the elementary arguments on which an account of our present knowledge is necessarily dependent. Further, it must be remembered that our knowledge of