

ultimately formed. A similar process produces lakes along continental shores through the formation of sand-dunes or accumulation of shingle, as, for instance, in Florida.

4. **Wind-formed Basins.**—The wind travelling in a cyclonic manner across plains often lifts the sand and earth, carrying them away, and thus forming shallow basins. Many of the shallow lake-pans of desert regions are believed to have been formed in this way, as well as lakes where sand-dunes are numerous.¹

When a quite comprehensive view is taken of the land-surfaces of the globe, two regions may be distinguished :

Two distinct
Lake Regions.

(A) The region of **INLAND DRAINAGE AREAS**, where evaporation exceeds precipitation, situated in the desert regions of the globe.

(B) The region of **DRAINAGE AREAS, THE WATERS FROM WHICH FLOW DIRECTLY INTO THE OCEAN**, where precipitation exceeds evaporation, situated in the well-watered regions of the globe with abundant vegetation. The water of lakes associated with the former class (A) may be either salt or fresh; that of lakes associated with the latter class (B) is always fresh.

In reviewing the distribution of lakes over the surface of the globe the order here suggested will be adopted in this paper.

LAKES CONNECTED WITH INLAND DRAINAGE AREAS

Distribution
of inland
drainage
areas.

The inland drainage areas are situated in two belts running right round the world, the one in the northern hemisphere, approximately between the latitudes of 30° and 50° North, the other in the southern hemisphere, approximately between the latitudes of 20° and 30° South. These regions correspond so closely with the great desert regions and with the salt-lake areas, where there is an annual rainfall of less than 10 inches, that the relation is evidently one of cause and effect. In the northern belt are the lakes of the Gobi Desert, the Sea of Aral, the Caspian Sea, the Dead Sea, the arid desert of Arabia, the lakes of the Sahara Desert, and of the Great Salt Lake and Alkali Deserts of the Rocky Mountains in North America. In the southern belt are the arid regions of the interior

¹ Sir John Lubbock, in his book *The Scenery of Switzerland*, p. 203, divides the lakes into the following four classes :—

- (1) Lakes of embankment.
- (2) Lakes of excavation.
- (3) Lakes of subsidence.
- (4) Crater lakes.

In the year 1883 Professor W. M. Davis published a classification of lakes according as they were made by constructive, destructive, or obstructive processes (see *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.*, vol. xxi. p. 315, 1883).