

Baikal, is the *Dracunculus* (*Comephorus baicalensis*), in which the head occupies a third of its entire length; the eyes are uncommonly large and protruding; from the gills to the tail, fins are attached on each side. This fish occurs in the deepest parts of the lake; it is said no one ever saw a living specimen. The lake abounds in crustaceans and gasteropods. There are four kinds of sponges of a dark emerald colour, containing much chlorophyll.<sup>1</sup> The seal (*Phoca baicalensis*) is called "nerpa" by the local inhabitants, and is killed during the whole summer.

**Lake Kosso-gol.**—One of the tributaries of the Selengá River is the Eke-gol, which drains Lake Kosso-gol, in the mountains southwest of Irkutsk. This lake is 83 miles long by about 25 miles broad, with an area of about 1300 square miles, and lies about 5470 feet above sea-level. The maximum depth, as shown by soundings taken by Peretolchin,<sup>2</sup> is 676 feet, the mean depth about 500 feet. The bottom of the lake-basin is fairly level, and its sides steep. In August 1897 the surface temperature was 59°·2 Fahr. (15°·1 C.) in the northern part of the lake, in August 1899 54½° Fahr. (12°·5 C.) in the centre (near Dola-Koi Island), and in July 1900 46° Fahr. (7°·8 C.) in the south. The temperature at 33 feet was 44°·6 Fahr. (7°·0 C.) in 1897 and 43° Fahr. (6°·1 C.) in 1900; at 300 feet, about 38½° Fahr. (3°·6 C.) in 1899 and 1900. In the cold summer of 1902 the surface temperature was only 41° Fahr. (5° C.) near Dola-Koi. Kosso-gol belongs to Forel's temperate type of lake, *i.e.* the temperature in summer is above that of maximum density, in winter below it. The lake freezes at the beginning of December, and becomes free from ice in June or July; the thickness of the ice is from 3 to 5 feet. The air temperature is low on the shores, daily means above 55° Fahr. (12°·8 C.) not being recorded until the end of July. The transparency of the water is very remarkable, the limit of visibility being 80 feet.

Lakes Tung-ting and Poyang are expansions of the mouths of the two chief southern tributaries of the Yang-tse Kiang. River Yang-ts  
Kiang.

**Tung-ting Lake**, in the province of Hoo-nan, is the largest lake in China. It is about 75 miles in length, from 20 to 37 miles in breadth, and about 1930 square miles in area, but varies much with the seasons. In ancient times it was called the Lake of the Nine Rivers, from the fact that nine rivers flowed into it. During winter and spring the water is so low that shallow parts become islands; but in summer, owing to the rise in the waters of the Yang-tse Kiang, to which it drains, the whole lake-basin is flooded. The

<sup>1</sup> *Guide to Great Siberian Railway*, p. 333.

<sup>2</sup> *Petermann's Mitt.*, Bd. 1., p. 152, 1904.