ward. They either belong to the continental river systems, and are *river-system* lakes, or they are confined or *imprisoned* lakes.

1. *Imprisoned lakes* fail of the third method of discharge and are relatively few in number. They lie in basins or depressions that had been made or left in the surface by orographic movements, or had become cut off in some way from a river system, or possibly where the rocks, having little firmness, had been excavated by former glacier action. Some of small size occupy craters of extinct volcanoes. The Caspian Sea, Dead Sea, Great Salt Lake of Utah, and lakes in the Great Basin, are examples. They are most likely to exist under dry climates, where the supply of water is small and evaporation large; and they may vary from dry beds to lakes in the changing climates of the year. Some imprisoned lakes have had surficial discharge in former eras. A confined river system usually supplies the waters, and carries in what can be gathered from the rocks around by solution and otherwise, as explained on page 118.

2. *Lakes connected with river systems* occur in all climates and latitudes, and at various heights. They are often situated in lines or clusters over the nearly level summit region of a Continental Interior, where the great rivers are gathering waters and deciding on their courses. They sometimes occupy profound depressions in the earth's crust, like the Great Lakes of North America, or follow the nearly level median line of continental drainage, as the Winnipeg series of British America.

The basins may be a result of geosynclinal movements, like that of Lake Superior; or otherwise of orographic origin, as the intermontane lake basins of many mountain regions; and even a consequence of the feeblest flexures of the earth's crust. They have commonly been made within the area of a river system by damming with transported material. Unusual floods may make barriers by local depositions; more easily, tributaries may throw across a valley dams that have a degree of permanence; still more effectively, ice may carry along gravel and sand and block the deep and narrow channel; or better, in regions of glaciers, more formidable deposits of drift may make obstructions in valleys and give outlines to many lakes over nearly level regions. After a period of elevation when the valleys were excavated to great depths, a period of lower level may have come, in which the transporting waters were in great force and made obstructing deposits, especially when water and gravel were afforded in vast quantities for the purpose by a melting glacier. Lake Geneva, in Switzerland, 45 miles long and 1095 feet deep, the surface 1230 feet above tide-level, is supposed to have been made in the way last mentioned; and even also, Lago Maggiore, of northern Italy, which, although only three miles wide, is 2613 feet deep, with 1920 of this below the sea. Another view attributes the depth of Lake Geneva to a subsidence of the lake bottom since the Glacial period.

Further, a large river in its more aged or decrepit portion may so wall itself in and raise its bed by depositions either side of and along its channel, that every flood makes temporary lakes; and extraordinary floods may