

duced into oceanic islands, as is well shown in the case of Bermuda. Hurricanes, by which large quantities of water are sucked up from lakes and rivers over which they pass, may also transport part of the fauna of these waters to other localities.

**Efflorescence products.**—Among the formations due in large measure to atmospheric action must be included the saline efflorescences which form upon the ground in the dry interior basins of continents. The steppes of Southern Russia, and the plains round the Great Salt Lake of Utah, may be taken as illustrative examples. Water, rising by capillary attraction through the soil to the surface, is there evaporated, leaving behind a white crust, by which the upper portion of the soil is covered and permeated. The incrustations consist of sodium-chloride, sodium- and calcium-carbonates, calcium- sodium- and potassium-sulphates in various proportions, these being the salts present also in the salt lakes of the same regions (p. 688).<sup>40</sup>

## § 2. Influence of the Air on Water

The results of the action of the air upon water will be more fitly noticed in the section devoted to Water. It will be enough to notice here—

1. **Ocean currents.**—These are mainly dependent for their existence and direction on the circulation of the atmosphere. The in-streaming of air from cooler latitudes toward the equator causes a drift of the sea-water in the same direction. As, owing to the rotation of the earth, these

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<sup>40</sup> On efflorescence of Great Salt Lake region, see Exploration of 40th Parallel, i. sect. v. Consult also E. Tietze, "Entstehung der Salzsteppen," *Jahrb. Geol. Reichsanst.* 1877, and H. le Chatelier on the salt-crusts of Algeria, *Comptes Rend.* lxxxiv. p. 396.