

stream brings in its contribution of detritus. In this way, a series of shoals is pushed out into the lake (Fig. 131 and p. 685). This phenomenon may frequently be instructively observed from a height overlooking a small lake among mountains. At the mouth of each torrent or brook lies a little tongue of its alluvium (a true *delta*), through which

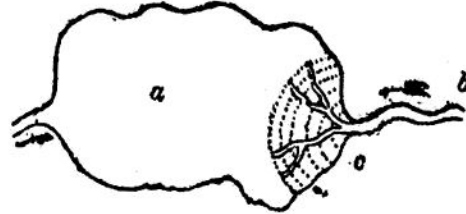


Fig. 130.—Streamlet (*b*) entering a small lake (*a*), and depositing a fan of sediment (*c*).

the streamlet winds in one or more branches, before mingling its waters with those of the lake. Two streams entering from opposite sides (as at *c*, *d*, Fig. 131) may join their alluvia and divide a lake into two, like the once united

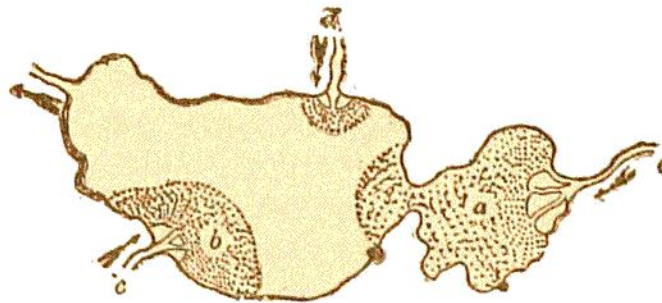


Fig. 131.—Plan of a lake entered by three streams (*c*, *d*, *e*), each of which deposits a cone of sediment (*a*, *b*) at its mouth.

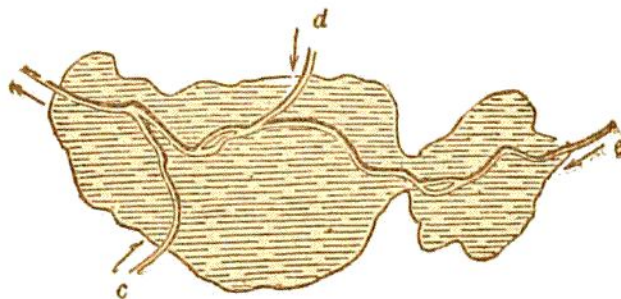


Fig. 132.—Lake (as in Fig. 131) filled up and converted into an alluvial plain by the three streams, *c*, *d*, *e*.

lakes of Thun and Brienz at Interlaken. Or, by the advance of the alluvial deposits, the lake may be finally filled up altogether, as has happened in innumerable cases in all mountainous countries (Fig. 132).