

ated (Russell's map, pl. iv) principally in the western half of Nevada. Its northern end extended into Oregon about 10 miles; its southern end about to latitude $33^{\circ} 30'$; while its western extremity reached nearly 40 miles into California. It was not an unbroken sheet of water, but it occupied depressions between ranges of mountains. In its central portion there was an island about 125 miles long, running north and south. According to Russell the extreme length of the lake was 250 miles; its width, 180 miles, and its total area 8,422 miles. The greatest depth is given by Russell as 886 feet and this was in the existing Pyramid Lake. Today this ancient lake is represented principally by Pyramid, Winnemucca, Humboldt, North Carson, South Carson, Walker and Honey lakes. The last named is in California. The remainder of the area covered by Lake Lahontan is now mostly desert.

Unlike Lake Bonneville, Lake Lahontan had not at any time an outlet, and this fact is responsible for various differences in the history of the two lakes.

Russell found that the borders of the old lake, like those of Bonneville, presented terraces which had been cut by the waters standing at different times at different levels. On his page 102 he presented a generalized profile of the shores, and this is here reproduced (fig. 7).

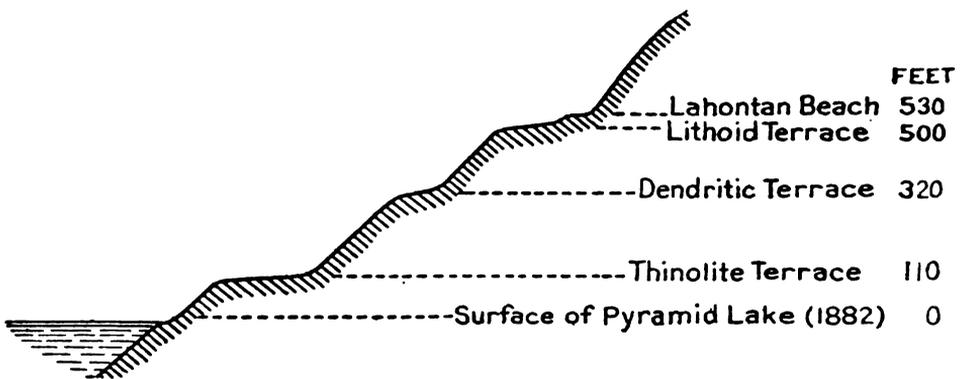


FIG. 7.—Generalized profile of Lahontan shores. After Russell.

It will be seen that four principal terraces were recognized above the present level of Pyramid Lake. The heights of these are given in the diagram, but the order of their elevation is not that of their geological age. The oldest terrace is that called Lithoid; the next oldest is the Thinolite; then follows the Dendritic, and last of all the Lahontan. According to Russell the Lithoid terrace marks the first high-water stage and corresponds in age to the Intermediate, or Lower Bonneville, of Lake Bonneville; while the Lahontan beach marks a high-water stage equivalent to Upper Bonneville. The Thinolitic terrace and the succeeding Dendritic mark pauses in the water level between the Lithoid and the Lahontan (fig. 7). No terraces corresponding to the Provo and the Standsbury appear to be recognized. As in the case of Lake Bonneville the two high-water stages are thought to have been associated with two glacial stages. Between these stages there intervened a long period, during which it is supposed that the region reached a degree of desiccation greater