

The Land Slide at St. Albans.

68.—Some miles Eastward of St. Anne de la Pêrade, P.Q. on the right bank of the river of that name, is to be born in mind on account of its vast extent or area of ground moved forward, which while some thousand ft. or more along the river reached back or inland for say 500 ft. or more.

The soil moved forward, thrust into the river and carried away as so much mud towards and into the St. Lawrence was some 60 ft. to 70 ft. in depth or thickness along the river and about 20 ft. towards the rear, thus (its upper surface being originally that of a level field) forming a truncated wedge-like mass of material reposing on a base sloping towards the river at a rate of more than 1 in 12.

As in the case last above mentioned of the land slide at St. Valier—the determining cause was that in the course of years or may-be centuries, the filtering through the sandy material composing the ground moved forward, of the rain or surface waters until arrested by the clayey and impermeable soil beneath, and the running of these percolated waters down the inclined surface of the clay, had excavated out for themselves a net-work of tiny tunnels or galleries which in course of time undermining the whole under surface of the sandy superincumbent mass, prepared for the phenomenon a so to say lubricated bed of quicksand and water along which the land gravitated to its destruction.

69.—The recent (1903) Land Slide at Frank B.C. Canada

M.M. Editors of the "Canadian Engineer",

Having seen or been witness to the contemporaneous land slides at Quebec in 1841, of some 300 ft. of the cliff opposite what has since been erected into Dufferin terrace, when over forty lives were lost — one at St. Valier's near St. Michel of 20 years ago—the second Quebec land slide at foot of Citadel in 1889 when 83,000 tons of rock fell over, reaching and demolishing a dozen houses on the river side of Champlain street with the casualty of 53 lives—the land slide at Ste Anne La Pêrade extending some 2000 ft. along the river of that name, 500 ft. in depth