

In the course of this violent convulsion of nature, lakes appeared where none ever existed before; mountains were overthrown, swallowed up by the gaping earth, or precipitated into adjacent rivers, leaving in their place frightful chasms or level plains.—Falls and rapids were changed into gentle streams, and gentle streams into falls and rapids. Rivers in many parts of the country sought other beds, or totally disappeared.—The earth and the mountains were violently split and rent in innumerable places, creating chasms and precipices whose depths have never yet been ascertained.—Such devastation was also occasioned in the woods, that more than a thousand acres in our neighbourhood were completely overturned; and where, but a short time before, nothing met the eye but one immense forest of trees, now were to be seen extensive cleared lands, apparently just turned up by the plough.

At Tadoussac, (about 150 miles below Quebec, on the north shore,) the effect of the earthquake was not less violent than in other places; and such a heavy shower of volcanic ashes fell in that neighbourhood, particularly in the River St. Lawrence, that the waters were as violently agitated as during a tempest.

Near St Paul's Bay, (about 50 miles below Quebec, on the north shore,) a mountain, about a quarter of a league in circumference, situated on the shore of the St. Lawrence, was precipitated into the river; but, as if it had only made a plunge, it rose from the bottom, and became a small island, forming, with the shore, a convenient harbour, well sheltered from all winds.

Lower down the river, towards Point Alloüettes, an entire forest of considerable extent was loosened from the main bank, and slid into the River St. Lawrence, where the trees took fresh root in the water.

There are three circumstances, however, which have rendered this extraordinary earthquake particularly remarkable.—The first is its duration, it having continued from February to August, that is to say, more than six