

This will give the channel from Steam-mill Bridge down, a fall of one foot per mile, while the amount of excavation in the proposed "cut" from the same point one hundred and ten yards above Steam-mill Bridge through by Danville Church to the Pequest at the upper point four hundred yards above first bench will be 264,661 cubic yards, or more than ten times the amount in the river. And I do not think there is any reason to conclude that, in either cut, there will be found less rock than in the river. Yet the "cut" will drain the swamp no deeper than the river in its present channel, if the latter be cut down to the grade line. It would seem then from the above that the cheapest plan to drain the Great Meadows, and the one that will make the drainage thorough, is to cut down the present river bed to the grade represented in the profile.

By reference to the *map* of the Great Meadows, it will be seen that very much cutting can be saved by straightening the Pequest, in many places, between the Steam-mill Bridge and Long Bridge. The area of the swamp is about 5500 acres. The soil is a black muck. The figures on the map denote the depth of the muck down to a sand or gravel bottom. When properly drained, the Great Meadows will be far the most valuable land in that section of country.

The chief expense of this improvement will be in cutting through the rocks at the reefs which may cost \$20,000.