

wild fowl ; its mainland side is a dense wilderness, and this part of the coast was explored in canoes paddled by Indians.

The harbour of Cascumpec is formed by an extensive peat-bog on one side, and a long mound of sea sand on the other ; it has sufficient water to float the largest ships. The peat forms a perpendicular wall which was measured at low water, and found to be 19 feet beneath the sea. It is also perpendicular above the water and forms the shore to the distance of two miles and a half. This peat-bog is composed of the common sphagneous plants interlaid with the pine, hemlock, and other forest-trees and low bushes, some of which are still in upright positions. There are no higher lands in the rear from which this bog could have made a slide, nor any remaining site from which it could have departed.

In the lagoon, the sea had flowed, at the time of the writer's visit, into groves of maple, beech, birch, &c., which are constantly falling down from the seawater overflowing their roots. The marshes where they meet the water, are filled with fallen timber ; and all taken together presents a desolate picture of the changes that are still in progress. This part of the island is very low and level ; and, from the gradual submergence of the land, the drainage of the country is obstructed, and lands now capable of being cleared and cultivated, will in the course of years be overflowed by the sea, unless the submersion should be arrested.

At numerous places on the shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and on the coast of Labrador, deposits of sand and clay containing recent shells and relics of marine plants are found at heights varying from 5 to 80 feet above the level of the sea. These elevated tracts are seen, at considerable distances from the present shores with notches worn out of the rocks by waves and currents of water ; there are also limestones perforated by the *Mytilus lithophagus*, from which the sea has long since been withdrawn. At some localities there are also evidences of depression, similar to those already described.

*Labrador &c.*—The Atlantic coast of Labrador and the Island of Newfoundland present the same phenomena, although they are less perfectly delineated by reason of the ice ; for ice-floes break down the shore, and icebergs deposit mounds of sand, gravel and boulders along the sea-board, the winter and summer aspects of which are altogether dissimilar.

*Conclusion.*—From what has been stated, it must not be understood that these silent *undulatory* movements of the land are confined to the coasts and estuaries : they are manifest on the borders of the rivers and the great lakes of Canada and also on the tributaries of the Mississippi. Slight shocks of earthquakes are common in Canada and the United States ; but it does not appear, in the history of those countries, that any material change in the relative levels of certain tracts has been effected thereby. Admitting, however, that earthquakes have been the cause of sudden sinkings and elevations of the land, and which would produce anomalous results, there is a slow and constant undulatory movement of the earth's surface, which no doubt acts as much on the ocean's bed as upon the dry land.