

washed away, during the last two centuries and a half.¹ Lobster factories near Miscou point, Point Escuminac, and other places have been swept away by the recession of the cliffs, and rebuilt, farther inland, over and over again. According to Mr. Kenneth McClellan, lightkeeper at Point Escuminac, the lighthouse originally stood about 500 feet seaward from its present position, and was moved inland about eighty years ago, because of the rapid encroachment of the waves against the low cliffs of sandstone at that point. Since that time, the sea has advanced about 100 yards, and is now threatening to demolish a building where the fog horn is installed, unless the Government takes prompt measures to protect it. There is no doubt that along most of the open coast of New Brunswick, the sea is now advancing upon the land.

It does not follow, however, that because the shore-line is moving inland, the coast is sinking. In a brief note on "Evidences of sinking of the coast of New Brunswick"² Professor Ganong explains that the washing of the sea through the gateway of old Fort Moncton, described by Gesner,³ must be accounted for by a washing away of the coast, rather than by an actual sinking of the ground beneath the sea. Ganong, nevertheless, argues that the rapid cliff recession thus recorded, which measures over 70 yards in a century and a half, is an evidence of subsidence. "This washing away of the upland can only be explained by a marked sinking of the coast, though the amount of the sinking is not thereby determined."⁴ Were it not for the fact that this idea of a necessary connexion between cliff recession and coastal subsidence has been widely circulated, it would seem hardly worth while to point out the possibility that all this encroachment can be accounted for by the horizontal cutting of waves against the foot of cliffs, attended, as it is, by the scouring down of the inclined shelf which lies below, and without any downward movement of the coast whatsoever.

¹ W. F. Ganong: *Proceedings and Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada*, second series, vol. 12, 1906, p. 133, also in his translation of Nicholas Denys' *History of Acadia*, published by the Champlain Society, 1908, p. 202.

² W. F. Ganong: "Evidences of the sinking of the coast of New Brunswick," *Natural History Society of New Brunswick, Bull.*, vol. XIX, 1901, pp. 339-340.

³ Abraham Gesner: *On elevations and depressions of the earth in North America*, *Quarterly Journal of the Geol. Soc. London*, vol. 17, 1861, pp. 381-388.

⁴ *Op. cit.*, p. 340.