

than they cut away such portion of the made soil as is immediately in their course, and leave the remainder in cloven and precipitate banks above.

Such then, I presume, has been upon a mighty scale the process upon Lake Ontario. The waters have retired violently, and in many parts below the level of their ancient bed ; and where this has happened in soil capable of removal, such as the flats below Scarborough heights, the operation of the mill-pond is strictly exemplified. I adduce the Scarborough flats as immediately connected with my subject.

I will now suppose the great agitation of the waters subsided, and that the lake stood at its present level, without a shoal formed by the action of the wind and wave,—without a shoal formed by the present tributary streams, which are all coeval to that awful era.

At this period commenced upon its virgin shores, the works of dillapidation and deposit,—dillapidation, by the action of the wave, and its consequent deposit ; and deposit, from the tributary streams.

There is indication enough to presume, that the high and bluff promontory of Scarborough extended at that era much farther out into the lake than it does at present ; that since, torn periodically by the easterly gale, and its wreck swept along the shore by the stormy wave, struck past the indenture of the land about Asbridge's Bay and York, and sprinkled its first deposit in the direction of the wind, laying the foundation of the peninsula, as simply as a pail of sandy water thrown into a clear pool would depose the sand in the direction in which it was thrown. And thus has fallen from the charged wave of the storm, deposit on deposit, until, from the bosom of the lake, uprose the peninsula—the work of ages of repetitions, and the monstrous index of the ravages of countless easterly storms upon the highlands of Scarborough.

The same cause is still in operation, producing similar results—the progressive increase and march of the peninsula west, but with this variation, that the farther the formation is removed from the source of its supply, the more it is inclined to spread, the water only bearing along so great a distance the smaller and easiest suspended particles. Hence its great breadth at the west end, and narrow neck at the east. A continuation of the peninsula is the transverse shoal that stretches