

Daily Eagle

UNSTABLE EARTH.

The Quebec Landslide Comparatively a Small Affair.

SLIDES IN MOUNTAIN LANDS.

Many Cliffs supposed to be Solid Prove to be Mere Piles of Stone Blocks—Long Drought Followed by Heavy Rain Loosens the Hills—Switzerland's Sufferings.

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THE SCENE OF THE LANDSLIDE.

In 1845 a large section of the so-called "Mount Ida," an abrupt hill west of Troy, N. Y., gave way suddenly with a tremendous crash and rolled over and down towards the city. A somewhat smaller mass, but still weighing many thousands tons, moved far enough to fall upon a portion of the city, and in an instant houses and inmates as well as many in the streets were crushed.

Other large towns, but the people had warning, and most of them escaped. A mound covered by a fir forest now marks the site of the buried village. On the 23d of September, 1714, occurred a similar calamity, attended by the most terrible escape recorded in history. A Swiss peasant, alone in a shepherd's hut, was covered, but saved from injury by two enormous rocks which lodged over him.

The most destructive landslide of this century was that of Sept. 2, 1860, which covered Golden, Hohen and Busingen, in Canton Schwytz, and destroyed 450 persons; but the largest mass to fall was that of Tschingel, some years later. This slide retained its shape and form, and now constitutes a hill nearly 1,000,000 yards in circumference.



UNDER THE PORT AND ELEVATOR.

In March, 1869, it began to be suspected that the continued rains of that season had caused another fissure in the hill, but to the eye it did not seem possible there could be a slide. Nevertheless, early on the morning of the 18th it became plain that the outer part of the hill was moving.

The dwellers in mountainous regions are sometimes deceived by the apparent solidity of the rocky masses about them, for it often happens that a ridge which seems on mass of rock really has a "fault" extending entirely through it.

Last evening two youths, each about 14, met in the street, when the following dialogue took place: "I say, Bill, you got my knife."

"No, I ain't."

"You own your word?"

"You own your soul?"

"You own your life?"

eight hours were crushed and thirty-two persons killed. As in the Rocky mountains the blocks in mining are thought to precipitate the catastrophe, as in Quebec it is conjectured that during the heavy rain at the citadel gave the final fatal shock.

There have probably been more sudden and destructive landslides in the Alps than in any other part of the world, and the descent of enormous boulders is of yearly occurrence.

The first calamity there of which history gives account was in the year 1360, when one side of an immense mountain fell into Lake Lemano, burying many people and at the same time causing an inundation, which drowned many more.

In 1519 a part of the Cremona mountain fell into the valley of Biagno, on the Italian side, and destroyed several villages. Almost at the same time there was a smaller but still very destructive landslide on the northern side of the same mountain.

Two villages were destroyed and a lake created where a cultivated valley had been. Two years later, on the 25th of May, this last burst through the debris, swept away 400 houses and drowned 600 people.

In 1854, in the midst of a heavy storm, a tremendous thunderclap loosened one side of a mountain in Canton Vaud; it fell, crushed two villages and destroyed over 300 people.

In September, 1818, an exactly similar occurrence—a long period of drought succeeded by heavy rain and a land slide—destroyed an

other large town, but the people had warning, and most of them escaped. A mound covered by a fir forest now marks the site of the buried village.

On a moonlight night in July Farmer Gideon A. Pomeroy, of Silver Lake, Susquehanna county, dreamed that a couple of dogs were slaughtering his flock of sheep in the pasture on the hillside.

He awoke suddenly from his dream just as the kitchen clock struck 11, and a few minutes later he awoke again. Again he dreamed that dogs were killing his sheep, and the dream was so clear and vivid that he couldn't think of anything else.

It seemed to him as though he had slept for two or three hours between the two dreams, but in reality only twenty minutes had passed. He passed the time as he found when he got up and looked at the clock.

Pomeroy said that dreaming this thing twice in so short a time was such a queer thing that he nudged his wife and told her about it. Mrs. Pomeroy is a firm believer in dreams, and she told her husband that she had seen the dogs before, and he has not found out who owned them.

Five of his lambs died from bites in the throat, and two more were bitten so badly that he had to kill them. Since then Farmer Pomeroy has kept his flock in the barnyard every night—Scranton Cor., New York Sun.

We are not only getting into the habit of using French words, but also of translating French phrases into our English. For instance, there is scarcely a paper I take up which does not inform us that something has been "definitely arranged."

But in a newspaper account of it the writer says: "An outrage which at first sight seems almost incredible has just been ventilated by special inquiry."—Blackwood's Magazine.

Two little moccasin feet—Horned while I revelled in fancy's quaint—Treading unsteadily through the room, Pattering soft in the twilight's gloom.

Two little moccasin feet that brought a thought I've been seeking an hour or more; Seeking in vain for the simple life, True to her sex, would her gifts reveal, Sweet as the nightingale's sweetest strain.

Two little moccasin feet—What will they stray in the coming year? Shall it be in a time far hence, by meeting her life with a cloud of care? God give her strength for what is to be, Robbing her day of its sun of tears, Leading the tread of the vulgar stride, Far from the world and its vulgar strife.

Believers in the Darwinian theory of the descent of man should be cheered by a little story told by a French paper about the visit of the Empress Eugenie to Egypt in 1869 to open the Suez canal.

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"Sally in Our Alley." I know Sally and her lover so long; I have studied them so often! I know them so well they are very little changed now, except, perhaps, in costume.

But decidedly she is a pretty girl, with small features, and ripe lips, and dark brown hair, crisp and curly, and white teeth. Her hands! Well, yes; a little large perhaps; and when she takes her gloves, which she will not often do when she is out for a walk with her lover on the Sunday—

Notified by Dreams. On a moonlight night in July Farmer Gideon A. Pomeroy, of Silver Lake, Susquehanna county, dreamed that a couple of dogs were slaughtering his flock of sheep in the pasture on the hillside.

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Origin of Silhouette. It is generally known that silhouette is a small profile likeness in black, or black slightly streaked with white or colored lines; but the origin of the word is to most persons a mystery.

She Did Not Understand. Mrs. Newman—You went sailing last night, didn't you? Mr. N.—Yes, indeed! Why do you ask?

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