

parture of the people of God from Egypt. The effects of this earthquake were infinitely varied; and never, perhaps, was there greater reason to believe that nature was dissolving and the world about to end. 1663. 

The first shock lasted half an hour, almost without interruption; but at the end of a quarter of an hour it began to diminish. About eight o'clock in the evening of the same day there was a second shock, equal in violence to the first; and in the space of half an hour two others. During the succeeding night some reckoned thirty-two shocks, several of them very violent.<sup>1</sup> The horror of night and the general consternation may have made them appear greater than they were. Even in the intervals between the shocks, men felt on shore as if in a ship riding at anchor; but this, too, was perhaps a result of a terror-stricken imagination. Yet it is certain that many experienced the sickness at the stomach and dizziness felt at sea, by those unaccustomed to that element.<sup>2</sup>

The next day, the 6th, about three o'clock in the morning, there was a strong shock which lasted for a long time.<sup>3</sup> At Tadoussac it rained ashes for six hours.<sup>4</sup> In another place, some Indians who had left their cabins at the first shocks found, when they endeavored to return, a large pond of water where their cabins had stood.<sup>5</sup> Half way between Tadoussac and Quebec two mountains were levelled down, and the earth which slid from them formed a point which ran out a quarter of a league into the river.<sup>6</sup> Two Frenchmen, on their way from Gaspé in a sloop, perceived nothing till they were opposite the Saguenay.

<sup>1</sup> M. Marie de l'Incarnation says two in an hour after eight o'clock. She says she counted only six shocks that night, though some counted 32, reckoning some very slight shocks.

<sup>2</sup> Relation de la N. F., 1663, p. 4.

<sup>3</sup> M. Marie de l'Incarnation, Choix de Lettres, p. 283.

<sup>4</sup> Relation de la N. F., 1663, p. 5.

As to the origin of these ash showers, see Sewell, Dark Days of Canada, in the Quebec Lit. and Hist. Soc., ii., p. 235; Baddeley, *Ib.*, i., p. 148; Hind's Labrador, i., p. 251.

<sup>5</sup> M. Marie de l'Incarnation, Choix de Lettres, p. 287.

<sup>6</sup> Relation de la N. F., 1663, p. 5; M. Marie de l'Inc., Choix de Let., p. 288.