

[Grey River Argus , Issue 625, 20 January 1870, Page 2](#)

The barque Adeline Burke, which arrived at Lyttelton from Newcastle a few days ago, experienced a severe shock of "seaquake" at 4,52 p.m. on Christmas Day. The shock, which appeared to travel from N.E. to S.W.. lasted for four or five seconds, and is said to have been accompanied by a rumbling sound resembling distant thunder. It caused the vessel to ..tremble and shake with a force almost equal to that of going over a reef of rocks, the rudder especially being shaken with with great violence, The barque was at the time not far from the West Cape, and the weather was very tempestuous, the waves being described as perfect mountains," and coming up from the north-east.

[West Coast Times , Issue 1367, 10 February 1870, Page 2](#)

In our issue of the 8th ult., says the Daily Times, we mentioned than a severe shock of **seaquake** was experienced by the barque Adeline Burke, on Christmas Day, while near the West Cape, from the Newcastle papers we learn that the shock was also felt by the barques Union and Indus, in Foveaux Strait. The Chronicle of the 12th ult. says— Captain Stephenson, of the barque Union, from Otago, reports as follows— At 5 o'clock p.m., on the 25th December, when off Solander Island, in Foveaux Strait, position about 20 to the N.E., felt three smart shocks of an earthquake in succession, duration about thirty seconds. "The weather was cloudy, and the barometer low. The shock came from the southward. The barque Indus which was in company, and about half a mile distant, also felt the shocks. "As the shock appears to have been a very violent one, Captain Blake, of the Adeline Burke, stated that it caused the vessel "to tremble and shake with a force almost equal to that of going over a reef of rocks." It is possible that the rocks on which the Laughing Water struck, and which is situated in what was formerly supposed to be deep water, may have been raised by its agency. It is also worthy of notice that a shock was felt at the same time at Cromwell and Queenstown. At the former place it lasted for a minute, and was described by a local paper as a rather long and continuous wave of earthquake, rather than a shock," and at Queenstown, where earthquakes were common occurrence, it attracted attention on account of the length of its duration.