

Both earth and sea have been shaken recently by earthquakes. About the middle of May several towns in the United States of Columbia were destroyed by earth convulsions of a terrific character. Just previous to that a shock of a similar nature has been experienced in some portions of Chili. Last week our western States were visited by manifestations of that power which moves the solid hills and rocks the earth as in the hollow of the Master's hand. Nor were these workings of nature confined to the earth. They troubled the sea, and lashed the waves as if a tempest had passed over its breast. A vessel which arrived at New York from Manilla, experienced the shock of an earthquake on the 4th of June off the West India islands, which lasted fully ten minutes, and was so violent as to alarm both officers and crew. The air was filled with a loud rumbling noise, and several sub-marine explosions were heard. The atmosphere was also hot and stifling during the continuance of the phenomena. The hardest of these shocks have occurred in the neighborhood of the equator, and they have extended over a wide space from east to west. No doubt islands have been pushed above the water of the ocean by upheavals of the character experienced by the vessel which brought the late news to New York, while in other cases a totally different effect has been produced. Thus the mighty forces of Nature are constantly producing and destroying. There are regions which have almost annual visitations from earthquakes, but they are not common in the United States nor in the waters in the vicinity of this country. The movement which had its center in the upper or northern portions of South America was so extended as to reach north as far as Illinois, and east to the point at which it met and shook the ship Hamilton from its topmast to its keel. The earliest indications of this mighty subterranean wave was in the beginning of May, its latest exhibition on the 4th of June.

—Philadelphia Times.