

### SUBMARINE EARTHQUAKES.

Captain Petersen, of the Swedish bark "Eleanor," reports that between 7 and 8 p. m., March 13, he experienced a submarine earthquake in the volcanic region of the Atlantic west of St. Paul Rocks. The ship was heading northwest, going about three knots, with a light easterly wind and calm sea, when a noise was heard on the port side, like a heavy surf, and almost immediately the sea began to bubble and boil like a huge kettle, the broken water reaching as high as the poop deck. No distinct shock was felt, but after the disturbance struck the ship she continued to tremble as long as it lasted. After about an hour it ceased for an hour and was then followed by another similar disturbance. A bubbling sound was all that could be heard and the water appeared foamy, but it was impossible, on account of the darkness, to say whether it was muddy. The next day weather and sea were as usual. Position at 8 a. m., latitude  $3^{\circ} 47'$  north, longitude  $48^{\circ} 03'$  west.

The region from St. Paul Rocks to and including the Windward islands is especially subject to earthquakes, and reports similar to the above are often received. In September, October and November of last year a number of shocks were reported, of which the heaviest was the one at Barbados on Oct. 6, felt throughout the region between Demerara and Martinique. On Nov. 20, a severe shock was felt about latitude  $8^{\circ} 45'$  north, longitude  $40^{\circ} 28'$  west, aboard the American bark P. J. Carleton, Captain Crosbie. The sea became like a boiling pot, tumbling about in a seething mass and greatly confused, and a grating sensation was experienced, as though the vessel were going over a reef. Nov. 28, in latitude  $3^{\circ}$  north, longitude  $27^{\circ}$  west, a slight shock was experienced aboard the British ship Walter H. Wilson, Captain Sproul.

Observers should carefully note the time and duration of each shock, and any change in the color or temperature of the sea.