

# Caused by an Earthquake Under Sea

The blood-red blotches that crimsoned the waters off the northwest coast of Vancouver Island, last Saturday, have now disappeared, according to information brought to the city by the crew of the Canadian Fish Company's steamer *Celestial Empire*, which arrived in port today with a cargo of 100,000 lbs. of halibut. The steamer sailed south through the same waters it traversed on its way down last Saturday, and now none of the blotches that reddened the surface of the water for miles round is to be seen.

The real cause of the mystery has not been ascertained with accuracy, but the theory of the officers of the steamer with regard to the event is eminently reasonable. The officers ascribe this queer manifestation of the mysteries of the deep to subaqueous action—to some submarine upheaval that threw the curious vegetable formations on the floor of the ocean to the unfamiliar surface. Full many a fathom down plant growth is deep and dense, and when cast violently to the surface it spreads to great dimensions, covering the surface of the sea for miles round. There is no doubt that the forces which thus disintegrate the oceanbed are the cause of the wreck of many a ship that sails away and is never heard of again. This subaqueous plant-life, when in the water is as red as blood, but when exposed to the air it assumes a greenish hue.