

streams, which was a necessary consequence, of the prolongation of their bed, to the confinement of the waters between dikes, and to the facility with which the increased cultivation of the ground enabled the mountain torrents which flowed into them to carry away the soil. Owing to these causes, the bay called *Sacra di Goro* was very soon filled up, and the two promontories which had been formed by the two former principal mouths of *Mazzorno* and *Toi*, were united into one vast projecting cape, the most advanced point of which is now 32,000 or 33,000 *metres* * beyond the meridian of *Adria*: so that in the course of two hundred years, the mouths or delta of the *Po* have gained about 14,000 *metres* † upon the sea.

From all these facts, of which I have given a brief enumeration, the following results are clearly established.

First, That, at some ancient period, the precise date of which cannot be now ascertained, the waves of the *Adriatic* washed the walls of *Adria*.

Secondly, That, in the twelfth century, before a passage had been opened for the waters of the *Po* at *Ficarolo*; on its left or northern bank, the shore had been already removed to the distance of nine or ten thousand *metres* ‡ from *Adria*.

* From 19 miles 7 furlongs and 15 yards, to 20 miles 4 furlongs and 9 yards, English measure.—*Transl.*

† Or 15,366 yards.—*Transl.*

‡ Equal to 9,842 or 10,936 yards.—*Transl.*