

two first mouths united into one, the present extremity of which is thirty-two or thirty-three thousand metres (nineteen to twenty miles) from the meridian of Adria. Thus, in two centuries, the mouths of the Po have gained fourteen thousand metres (nearly nine miles) on the sea.

“Of this hasty sketch these are the results:

“1st. That at an early period, the precise date of which cannot be ascertained, the Adriatic sea washed the walls of Adria.

“2dly. That in the twelfth century, before a passage had been opened at Ficarolo, for the waters of the Po, on the left bank, the sea-shore was removed nine or ten thousand metres (six miles) from Adria.

3dly. That the extremities of the promontories formed by the two principal mouths of the Po, were, in 1600, before the formation of the canal of Taglio di Porto Viro, at a mean distance of eighteen thousand five hundred metres (twelve miles) from Adria; which, since the year 1200, gives an extent of alluvial deposit of twenty-five metres (twenty-seven yards one foot and a fraction, English admeasurement. *)

“4thly. That the extremity of the single promontory, formed by the present mouths, is thirty-two or thirty-three thousand metres (nineteen to twenty miles) from the meridian of Adria; whence we may conclude the mean progress of the alluvial deposits to be about seventy metres (upwards of seventy-six yards) per annum for the last two centuries, which is a rapidity greater than that of preceding ages.

“DE PRONY.”

* The *metre* was a measure adopted during the French revolution, of about $39\frac{1}{2}$ inches English measure.—*Translator.*