The cliffs of Norfolk and Suffolk, England, afford an example of seashore encroachment that has long been under observation as the country is one of houses and cultivated fields. Lyell states that in 1805, when an inn at Sherringham was built, it was 50 yards from the sea, and it was computed that it would require 70 years for the sea to reach the spot—the mean loss of land having been calculated, from former experience, to be somewhat less than one yard annually. But it was not considered that the slope of the ground was from the sea. Between the years 1824 and 1829, 17 yards were swept away, bringing the waters to the foot of the garden; and in 1829

190.



Rock detached by wave-action, Otter Creek, Mount Desert, Me. Shaler, '89.

there was depth enough for a frigate, 20 feet, at a spot where a cliff of 50 feet stood 48 years before. Farther to the south, the ancient villages of Shipden, Wimpwell, and Eccles have disappeared. This encroachment of the sea has been going on from time immemorial.

3. Limit of wave-denudation; Planation. — Besides battering and degrad-