

form a strait, by which Lake Huron communicates with Lake Michigan. It was Father Marquette who brought the Hurons to this post and established them there.

1671.

It is not easy to know for what reason that missionary chose it in preference to so many others, which seem far more advantageous for such a settlement. He speaks of it himself in his memoirs, as a very inconvenient place, where the cold is intense,¹ arising doubtless from the fact that the three lakes between which it lies—the smallest of which (Lake Michigan) is three hundred leagues in circuit, without counting a bay,² twenty-eight leagues in length, which empties into it—are ordinarily agitated by very violent winds.

Singular phenomena. Observations on Tides and Currents.

Father Marquette adds that the inequality of the tides greatly deranges the navigation of these lakes. In fact I have already noted that there is nothing regular about them, and that they are quite strong in some parts. In the neighborhood of the little island of Michillimakinac they rise and fall once every twenty-four hours, at full and new moon, and always run towards Lake Michigan. Nor is it doubtful, that there is, independent of these tides, a current always setting from Lake Huron into Lake Michigan, which is caused apparently by springs, such as are quite frequently found in the open sea.³

Yet this current does not prevent the natural current from Lake Michigan, which, as well as Lake Superior, discharges its waters into Lake Huron. The former of these two currents, that is to say, that from Lake Huron into Lake Michigan, is more sensible, when the wind blows

Ignatius on the northern point; and there is nothing in Marquette's own account of his mission (*Relation de la N. F.*, 1672-3, p. 146) that alludes to the island. La Hontan (i., pp. 114-6, and the map) describes it as on the shore north of the strait. Le Clercq (*Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 148) says expressly that it was north of

the strait. Perrot in his *Mœurs et Coustumes*, p. 102, is not definite.

¹ He discusses its advantages—fisheries, hunting, access—and its disadvantages. *Relation*, 1672-3, p. 37.

² Baye des Puants, or Grande Baye, now Green Bay.

³ Charlevoix, *Journal*, p. 301.