

the moon, because of the benefit of her light in the night, and because they suppose she influences vegetation—to the earth, because it gives them support—to their hands, because with them they obtain it—to their feet, because of their use in transporting them from one place to another—to the fire, because of its benefit in cooking their provisions, and giving them warmth in winter—to the good spirit, for providing all things necessary for their benefit—to the evil spirit, to appease his anger.

Mr. Tanner states that above the Ox Lake there are occasionally some high lands which, compared with the surrounding country, and viewed at a distance, resemble islands. On the south side of the Lake, the lands are high, tolerably well timbered, and apparently capable of admitting settlements. On the other side, the lands are low, and covered with lofty timber. The growth is oak, hickory, and aspen. Twelve miles from this, he came to the Rush Lake,* about ten miles long and two broad. In passing down this Lake, the lands on either side appeared considerably elevated, and the timber increased in size and quantity. Great numbers of Winnebago and Menomonee Indians were employed in gathering wild rice‡ on the rivers and lakes. The river gradually grows wider. In about fifty miles, the Wolf River intersects, on which a part of the Chippeway tribe reside. Five miles below this, is what is called the great "Death Ground."|| It derived its name, as Mr. Tanner was informed, from the circumstance that about the year 1750 a great battle was fought between the French troops, assisted by the Menomonee and Ottawa Indians, on one side, and the Sauk and Fox Indians on the other. The Sauk and Fox Indians were nearly all cut off, and this proved the cause of their eventual expulsion from that country. At this place, the Death Lake, larger than either of the others which he had passed, commences. Here Mr. Tanner left his canoe, being informed that the distance

* Puckaway Lake.

L. C. D.

‡ Wild rice grows about four feet above the water, and has ears from three to five inches long. The kernel is about three-fourths of an inch long, of a dark slate color, and used by the Indians as a substitute for bread. They gather it by rowing their canoes by the side of it; and, after bending the ears into the canoe, beat the rice off. After the canoe is full, it is rowed to the shore; the rice is spread on blankets, and, when dry, is beaten till separated from the chaff. It is then winnowed and becomes fit for use.

|| Big Butte des Morts.