

there is almost everywhere 20, 25, 30, 40, or 50 brasses of water. The currents, especially near Missilimakinak, are as swift as in the sea itself. This might perhaps be attributed to the winds that frequently blow there. But experience proves the contrary, for the currents are always, without exception, contrary to the wind—so that, for instance, if the north wind blows the current runs northward; and, if the south wind blows, it runs southward; and so on for the other winds. And, what is still more peculiar, during calm weather the current runs in the direction whence the wind should come. This observation is infallible. I leave philosophers to reason out this question, assuring them that the testimony I bear is true, as true as it is to say that it is daylight at noon.

As for lake Michigan, there is a tide—that is, an ebb and flow—in the twenty-four hours, as in the Southern seas; and the tides increase or diminish according to the moon's course.

In the interior, ten leagues from the last-mentioned lake, is a small lake remarkable for its perpetual motion. It is about two leagues in length, and at each end are various channels, dividing in various places, which might be taken for ditches dug by human hands. Now it happens that at times one end of this small lake is dry, and at others the opposite end; and the streams or ditches lying contiguous to one another are sometimes empty and sometimes full to overflowing, so that its waters are constantly agitated—galloping from one end to the other, and, to use a common expression, playing at prisoner's base; one would say that some sprite tosses them about in that manner.

Having shown the situation of the French fort and village, and of those of the Savages, I will describe how they are fortified and built. These forts are made of stakes. Those of the outer row are as thick as one's thigh, and about 30 feet high; the second row inside is a full foot from the first, and leans over at the top to support and prop it; the third row is four feet from the second one, and consists of stakes  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet in diameter, standing 15 or 16 feet out of the ground. Now in this row no space is left between the stakes; on the contrary, they are driven as closely together as possible, and loopholes are cut at intervals. In the first two rows there is a space