

water twenty or thirty feet at Gargantua, Michipicou, or Otter's Head, places exposed to the accumulated force of waves travelling over 200 or 250 miles of unobstructed and deep water.

Captain Bayfield will kindly permit me to observe, that at Fort Michipicou the superintending officer showed me, on the lake-shore, several shelves, rising to the above height, of pure, loose, naked sand, and said that they were the produce of winter storms. The level of such a vast body of water as Lake Superior is affected not only by the winds, but by variations in atmospheric pressure to a certain degree local, which permit one part of the lake to rise while another is depressed.

Ancient beaches are of firm texture, of materials varying in size and kind, and are always more or less clothed with vegetation.

My remark becomes the more credible when we find a similar elevation of the lake surface stated as occurring on an isle off Nipigon Bay, in the narrative part of Professor Agassiz' volume, page 95. It is in the following words:—

“ We breakfasted on a barren island. Some logs, of  
“ a foot or more in diameter, had been thrown to the  
“ distance of fully 150 yards from the water's edge.  
“ and 30 or 40 feet above its level.”

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