

and passed into Lake Michigan, where, after sailing forty leagues, they landed on an island at the mouth of Green Bay, whence La Salle sent back the ship to Niagara, laden with rich and valuable furs, procured by trade with the Indians of the coasts where they had touched in the voyage. The pilot and five men embarked in her, but they never reached the shore; it is supposed that she foundered in Lake Huron. Such was the first and last voyage of the first ship that ever ploughed the waters of the West.

To protect Buffalo, the Americans are building a strong fort at Blackrock, on the shores of the lake, near the entrance to the Niagara River. On the Canada side is Fort Erie, now in ruins. It was taken from the English, held for some time, abandoned and destroyed in 1814; as it does not cover any points of essential importance, it has never been restored. Near this place, on the river, is the village of Waterloo; the name and situation worthy of a more flourishing settlement.

Returning, we travel by steam-boat to Chippewa and, going down the Niagara River, pass, to the left, Grand Island, belonging to our Republican neighbours; a fine tract of land, bearing, in proof of its fertility, a splendid white oak: no timber on the whole continent is more valuable for the Atlantic