

seen, are very erroneous. The rivers in general are described as running in different directions from what they really do, and many branches of them, particularly the Mississippi, omitted. The distances of places, likewise, are greatly misrepresented. Whether this is done by the French geographers (for the English maps are all copied from theirs) through design, or for want of a just knowledge of the country, I cannot say; but I am satisfied that travellers who depend upon them in the parts I visited, will find themselves much at a loss.

Near one half of the way, between the rivers, is a morass overgrown with a kind of long grass, the rest of it plain with some few oak and pine trees growing thereon. I observed here a great number of rattlesnakes. *Monf. Pinnisance*, a French trader, told me a remarkable story concerning one of these reptiles, of which he said he was eye witness. An Indian belonging to the *Menomonie* nation, having taken one of them, found means to tame it; and when he had done this, treated it as a Deity; calling it his Great Father, and carrying it with him in a box, wherever he went. This the Indian had done for several summers, when *Monf. Pinnisance* accidentally met with him at this Carrying Place, just as he was setting off for a winters hunt. The French gentleman was surprised, one day, to see the Indian place the box which contained his God, on the ground, and opening the door, gave him liberty; telling him whilst he did it, to be sure and return by the time he himself should be back, which was to be in the month of May following. As this was but in October *Monsieur* told the Indian, whose simplicity astonished him, that he fancied he might wait long enough when May arrived for the arrival of his great father. The Indian was so confident of his creature's obedience, that he offered to lay the Frenchman a wager of two gallons of rum, that at the time appointed he would come and crawl into the box. This was agreed on, and the second week in May following, fixed for the determination of the wager. At that period they both met there again; when the Indian set down his box, and called for his great father.

The sn
expired
witho
double
days m
hold on
rived,
which
man v
account
creatur

I ob
from t
north e
these tw
in a few
Carryin
their ri
ferent c
tance lo
several
miles, f
er, after
number
Mexico
five cor
nity the
tions or
waters
other;
ion of
their ri
same so
distinct
some pl
stepped
On t
Ouiscor
hundres
great to
buile In