

traced the Missouri for eight hundred miles due west, found a vast lake, on which inhabited two or three great nations, much more civilized than other Indians; and says, that out of this lake a great river disembogues itself into the South Sea.—*Query*—Does not this river seem to be the Oregon of Captain Meares?

Charlevoix, vol. ii. p. 225 of the English translation, mentions a great lake very far to the west of the Mississippi, *on the banks of which are a people resembling the French, with buttons on their cloaths, living in cities, and using horses in hunting the buffalo; that they are clothed with the skins of that animal; but without any arms but the bow and arrow.*

Bossu, in his account of Louisiana, vol. i. page 182, says that he had been informed by the Indians of a nation of *cloathed people*, far to the westward of the Mississippi, who inhabited great villages built with white stones, navigated in great piragnas on the great salt water lakes, and were governed by one grand despotic chief, who sent great armies into the field.

It deserves attention that the Maçtotatas of Charlevoix, and the Marocantes of Coxæ seem to retain something of Madoc in their names.

Bossu, page 393, observes that “Powel, an English writer, mentions, in his History of Wales, that, in the year 1170, there was a war in that country for the succession to the throne. A bastard took the crown from the legitimate children: one of the latter, whose name was *Madoc*, embarked in order to make new discoveries. Directing his course to the westward, he came to a country, the fertility and beauty of which was amazing. As this country was without inhabitants, *Madoc* settled in it. *Hakluyt* assures us that he made two or three voyages to England to fetch inhabitants; who, upon the account he gave of that fine country, went to settle with him. The English believe that this Prince discovered *Virginia*. *Peter Martyr* seems to give a proof of it, when he says that the nations of *Virginia* and those of *Guatemala* celebrate the memory of one of their ancient heroes, whom they call *Madoc*. Several modern travellers have found ancient British words used by the North American nations. The celebrated Bishop *Nicholson* believes that the *Welsh* language has formed a considerable part of the languages of the American nations. There are antiquarians who pretend that the Spaniards got their double or guttural *l* (ll) from the Americans, who, according to the English, must have got it from the Welsh.”