

teen years, when her planks of this pine were as sound and rather harder than at first, altho' her oak timbers were rotten. The *cypress*, of which there is such plenty in the swamps on this coast, is reckoned to be equally serviceable, if not more so, both for masts (of which it would afford the largest of any tree that we know), and for ship building. And ships might be built of both these timbers for half the price perhaps of any others, both on account of the vast plenty of them, and of their being so easily worked.

In most parts of these coasts likewise, especially about the *Mississipi*, there is great plenty of *cedars* and *ever-green oaks*; which make the best ships of any that are built in *North America*. And we suspect it is of these *cedars*, and the *American cypress*, that the *Spaniards* build their ships of war at the *Havana*. Of these there is the greatest plenty, immediately to the westward of the mouth of the *Mississipi*; where "large vessels can go to the lake of the *Chetimachas*, and nothing hinders them to go and cut the finest oaks in the world, with which all that coast is covered;" * which, moreover,

* Charlevoix Hist. N. France, Tom. III. p. 444.