bullrushes are boldly invading and occupying it on every hand. A thousand incipient islands are breaking up its continuity. Once it was fifty miles in width and a hundred miles long. A rise of ten or twenty feet would make it that again.

But the whole series of lakes is nearly of the same level from Chicago to Buffalo. The former high waters of Lake St. Clair imply similar floods in the other lakes. Indeed, we easily discover corroboration of this in the topography of the country at Chicago, Detroit, and Toledo. These cities are built upon the slime of the lakes, and a slight elevation of the waters would bury them beneath a new deposit of lacustrine mud. The artesian wells of Toledo are supplied from some of the sandy beds of the ancient lake sediment, which follow the general configuration of the underlying drift, and come to the surface at some higher level back of the city.

These evidences of higher waters lead us to inquire for They could scarcely be occasioned by a greatthe cause. er volume of water, since the outlets are of sufficient capacity to prevent its accumulation. Nothing but an obstruction of the outlet can explain the phenomenon. This obstruction must have existed at a point where the contiguous shores were sufficiently elevated to prevent a flank It must also have existed at a movement of the water. point beyond or to the eastward of all these obvious traces of the inundation. It could not have been at Mackinac, for that would not have flooded Canada West. It could not have been at the foot of Lake Huron for the same reason, and because the contiguous country is too low. It could not have been at Buffalo for the last-named reason, and also because the country between Buffalo and Lake Ontario belongs to the submerged area. It must have been at the mouth of the Niagara River.

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