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Tides! It is well known that the moon and the sun cause the tides. But this was not always known. Aristotle, about the 4th century B.C., taught that the sun made winds which in turn caused the tides. The Arabs in medieval times thought that the moon heated the ocean waters, causing them to swell and rise. Latini, a philosopher of the 13th century, said that tides were caused by the effort of the earth breathing; another that they were the result of ice melting at the poles. A curious Scottish myth explained them as due to the breathing of a sea-serpent taking six hours to draw his breath. Galileo believed them due to differing speeds of the earth's surface.

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