

would have this renewing done. He answered them by saying he did not believe in this half-way charity giving,—and when he did a person a favor he did not stop half way, but carried it out fully. "Now," said he, "if you furnish the paints and materials and two good workmen to put it on, I will consent that you may have the job."

There are many yet living who remember the steamboat *Buffalo* running into the *Commodore Perry* just above Erie, and cutting the boat below the water-line. Captain Wilkeson lay in his berth in the cabin very ill from a cold, and had not been able to be on deck for two or three days. Hearing the tremendous crash caused by the breaking of the shaft and timbers, he arose from his sick bed, went on deck, and gave orders to his men what to do. All was bustle and commotion. The next moment another cracking and crashing of timbers followed. It was one of the wheels with part of the iron shaft leaving the boat and going down to the bottom of the lake.

The Captain, in relating the incident to me, said it seemed to him that when the wheel with part of the shaft was breaking away from the boat the whole boat was going to pieces and bound for the bottom. This breaking away and leaving the boat, however, saved the craft from going down immediately. It allowed her to careen over and bring a large part of her broken side above water. The passengers and most of the crew were taken on board of the *Buffalo*. Some few of Captain Wilkeson's faithful hands remained on the *Perry* with him. The *Buffalo* took her in tow and brought her into Erie harbor, to the side of the dock, where she soon after sank to the bottom. She was raised again, under Captain Wilkeson's management, and was repaired and did good service after this. It was Captain Wilkeson's persevering energy that saved his boat from going to the bottom of Lake Erie beyond recovery.

The Captain, in speaking of captains of vessels, as to their capability of taking care of them in a storm or at any difficult time, said, "If he," the captain, "gets frightened, or loses