

There was a large hotel which was open ; but a bank which was shut. It appears that this latter institution, which had started into an ephemeral existence some two or three years before, had suddenly come to a stand still,—in fact, if it had capital, it was all wasted, and all its bills, called in those days, wild cat money, were worthless. This information I had from the owner of the hotel. Boniface himself, with all the owners of property in Green Bay, suffered severely by the suspension of the bank. Chicago was coming into importance at that time, (in the year 1845,) and might have a population of from 4000 to 5000, and the tide of travel and trade toward it was rapidly increasing in volume. There was a fine agricultural country, however, about Green Bay ; a large stream called Fox river passed by the town, which was well timbered some distance up ; but I presume the town has never recovered from the suspension of its bank.

After a pleasant voyage, we returned to Makinac, where the "General Scott" had arrived from the Sault St. Mary, before us. We were right glad to get on board, and the steamer soon started for the eastern end of the great lake. We arrived in due time at the Sault, and here Gray and myself parted, he going up the South Shore in a boat or canoe, while I went up the North Shore in a schooner. I left him with regret, and have never seen or heard of him since. If he be alive I have little doubt that he has got on well in the world. One could not be long in his company without feeling convinced that he was a man of more than ordinary ability.

I have occupied more space than I at first intended in writing my personal narrative of the voyage to Lake Superior ; and the remainder of the paper must be devoted to a short description of the great lake itself, which many have read or heard of, but few have seen.

The name is appropriate in some respects ; but in the earlier times it was called Lake Condé. The name, in all probability, was changed by the Jesuit Missionaries who followed the fur traders, about twenty or thirty years after the latter had established themselves there. Besides being the source of the St. Lawrence, it exceeds any other fresh water lake in its extent and the clearness of its water (for one can see, in a calm day, the bottom to a great depth), and is also noted for the abundance and fine quality of its fish. In round numbers it may be said to be from 350 to 400 miles long, with an average breadth of 80 miles, while in some parts it is at least 150 miles wide ; it is about 620 miles above the level of the sea, and has an area of from 30,000 to 35,000 square miles. Its northern shores are extremely rugged ; in some places the cliffs rising perpendicularly from the water's edge, some 500 or 600