

have given him a silver cup or some other token of acknowledgment for the great service he had rendered them, especially as his successful efforts had been attended with considerable damage to his boat. He replied that he did not wish anything. "But," continued he, "they did invite me to take a public dinner at the Mansion House, but I declined, as I could not afford to spend the time."

This was not, however, his first exploit in opening navigation at Buffalo, in order to accomplish his own plans in the carrying business. Six years before, when sailing the *Eagle*, he came down with his load of freight and found Buffalo harbor blockaded with ice. No craft had gone out or come in. With his usual ready determination, he ran his vessel into the floating ice, and after many hours of hard work on the part of his faithful crew entered port. Through the opening he had made by his hazardous undertaking, others followed, and navigation was open for the season.

Another incident which I have heard related will illustrate his spirit as a seaman, viz.: that having been caught in a sudden storm of wind, hail and rain, which threw his vessel on its beams' ends, when unable to walk the deck, he crawled upon his hands and knees, holding on by whatever he could, the hail lacerating his face so that the blood ran down; and by his perseverance and management brought his vessel all right again.

Such stories of those that "go down to the sea in ships and do business upon the waters" bring to my mind often the old English song I used to hear sung more than sixty years ago:

"Ye gentlemen of England, who stay at home at ease,  
Ye little know the dangers upon the raging seas,  
When up she mounts aloft, my boys, and down again so low,  
How she reels upon her keel while the stormy winds do blow."

When the steamboats on our lakes ran in opposition, or "every one for itself," the owners would have bands of musicians aboard, playing to attract travellers. Some boats would keep the band aboard to play while in port, and some to play while