let us imagine ourselves upon her deck, or better, mounted on her wheelhouse. Yonder, to the right, across the river, are the ruins of "old" Fort Erie, then only four or five years old, *as ruins.* How few remain who lived amid the conflicts of those days! There, spreading off in front as we look southwestward, is the beautiful lake. Now, toward the left a little, is a small point of sandy beach, and I am in doubt whether then or not till one or two years later, even the first little pioneer lighthouse, kept by Mr. Skates, marked that bit of sand, so important a spot to mariners in later days. And still farther to the left is the shallow, ever-shifting channel of Buffalo creek, sometimes in heavy gales filled up, so that some have declared that they had crossed it from shore to shore dry shod, and anon broken through by the current, may-be rods away from the old outlet. Then, sweeping the eye around eastward, there upon that bluff lies Buffalo; but what a contrast is it to this our Queen City of the Lakes! There in the midst is a little cluster of buildings, from the "Mansion House," "Landon's tavern" in those days, to a little above Seneca street; while on either side, north and south, there are only scattering houses. On the creek are the two or three warehouses, the flat around the "Terrace" bluff is without residences, and along "the Main street," northward, only here and there a house appears. Down the river, coming round again "to the place of beginning," is Bird Island with its feathered inhabitants (white sea gulls, the most abundant occupants), and on the shore is Sandytown with its sand-hills, one of the cemeteries of our faithful troops, in the war of 1812. Then comes the river shore below, its beach the highway between Black Rock and Buffalo, and the great "black rock" which divides the beach into two (the upper and lower) portions. Next, we see "Squaw Island," once traditionally the habitation of a single, lonely "squaw," whence its name; and Strawberry Island,—low, nearly treeless, and scarcely to be seen; and Grand Island, looming up "grand" indeed with its heavy