

anxious waiting, almost worthless. The reverse was apparent, I was tanned, instead of the leather. I never recovered from this false step sufficiently to continue in this trade, so left it with dear bought experience. The great Napoleon wisely said, "C'est le premier pas qui cout." The first step, wisely or unwisely taken, leads to success or failure, or in other words, "There is a time and tide in the affairs of men; if taken at the ebb, leads on to fortune." I always struck it at the wrong time. Resting on my oars at this juncture, a bait was thrown out to me by a friend that I eagerly seized, which was to open a stone quarry on the Great Manitoulin Island. The enterprise ended in forming a company to bore for oil instead, and after expending \$50,000 of the company's money 100 barrels only was pumped out, and with it my last dollar. So ended that venture.

A northerly current drifted me into the regions of Lake Michigan and Green Bay in the service of the United States Lake Surveys of the Racine Reef and locating the present Sturgeon Bay ship canal. Too much praise cannot be said in favor of the discipline, order and efficiency