

to be the custom to plant a May-pole on the frozen surface. Quoting from a friend's diary, we find: "1837, May 1st, May-pole put on the ice today. Monday, May 8th, May-pole renewed, and flags added to it. Ice in basin good."

Mackinaw, or as the Indians formerly named it, Machilimackinac, "The Great Turtle," was, in those days, called the emporium of the West, a town of extensive commerce. All the fur-traders went there to sell their furs, and buy their goods. Prior to the establishment of the American Fur Company by John Jacob Astor, the Hudson's Bay Company occupied the island in the same manner, as a depot. All the goods for this large trade came from Montreal in birch bark canoes, by way of Niagara Falls. All goods and canoes were carried past the rapids on the backs of the Indians. It made most exciting times when *Le Canneau du Nord* came, arriving sometimes as early as June, and bringing from Montreal merchants, and merchandise. As the canoes neared the town, there would come floating on the air, the far-famed Canadian boat-song. How plainly I hear it now! Then the voyageur came in with furs, and then the Indians, and the little island seemed to overflow with human beings. These exciting, busy times would last from six weeks to two months, then would follow the quiet, uneventful, and to some, dreary days, yet to most, days that passed happily.

### Reminiscences of Green Bay

In early autumn of the year 1824—September 20th—the writer, with friends, arrived at Green Bay. We came by the schooner "Jackson," commanded by Capt. John Burnham. We were eight days in making the two hundred miles. Coming up the Fox River, we saw on the western shore the military post of Fort Howard, which presented to us a beautiful, though somewhat lonely, appearance. A few rods south of the fort were two houses, and at the north was a large garden, comprising its sole surroundings. The eastern shore was covered with dense woods.

Gen. Gaines, at that time an elderly gentleman, fine looking and very agreeable, was one of our party on board the "Jackson." We cast anchor opposite the fort, and received from thence a salute