

had left his native country in early life, and sought a home in New France, built upon the upper part of the Niagara River a vessel of some sixty tons burden, which he called the "Griffin." It was doubtless the first considerable craft which sailed upon the Upper Lakes. On the seventh of August of that year, the vessel was launched, and her sails spread to the breeze. Passing up through the great chain of lakes and rivers, and having erected a trading-house at Mackinaw, we at length find him casting anchor at the village of Green Bay. Here he opened up a trade with the natives; and having loaded his vessel with furs and peltries, he dispatched her, under command of his crew, back to Canada.

With La Salle was Louis Hennepin. The spirit of enterprise prompted these bold explorers to coast the western shore of Lake Michigan, to where South Bend is now located; and passing over the portage of the Kankakee, they descended that stream and the Illinois to Peoria Lake, where La Salle erected a fort, and dispatched Hennepin with a single companion on a voyage of discovery to the Upper Mississippi. Meanwhile La Salle revisited Green Bay, and then made his adventurous descent of the Mississippi. He eventually lost his life in an attempt to reach the El Dorado in Mexico, in March, 1687.

Hennepin was more fortunate. He had continued his voyage up the Mississippi, to the great falls, which he named St. Anthony, by which they have ever since been known. Here he and his companion were captured by the Sioux Indians, and detained as prisoners for a few months. After their release, they returned to Canada, *via* the Mississippi, the Wisconsin and the Fox rivers, and the lakes. From the conflicting statements given by him of his journey, his exaggerated account of the height of the falls of St. Anthony, which he stated was from fifty to sixty feet, and from his efforts to rob La Salle of the laurels he had won as an explorer, we are led to the conclusion that he was not possessed of as much veracity and integrity as the Jesuit adventurers generally. However, much honor justly at-