

HISTORY OF THE ASHLEY & DUSTIN BOATS, 1862-1945

F163-7

Eighty-Three Years of Service to the Pleasure
Seekers of Detroit and Western Lake Erie

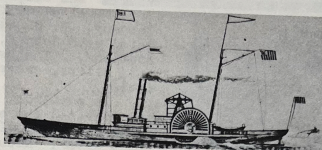
By Captain Frank E. Hamilton

(reprinted from The Lake Erie Breeze, Summer, 1945)

In 1862, Captain Selah Dustin placed the sidewheel steamer DART on the Detroit, the Islands, and Sandusky Route. Previous to this, the steamer FORRESTER had run on this route in 1845, followed by the steamer GENERAL SCOTT in 1846, the steamer ARROW, 1849 (the ARROW was the first of the boats to make regular stops at the Islands), steamer BAY CITY, 1854, steamer FOREST CITY, 1856, and in 1860 the steamer T. WHITNEY ran tri-weekly from New Baltimore to Sandusky, stopping at Detroit and the Islands. She was followed by the DART in 1862. The PHILO PARSONS, named for a Detroit banker, ran in 1863, the CITY OF SANDUSKY, 1866, the ISLAND QUEEN, 1867, and on July 4th, 1868, the new steamer JAY COOKE, built for this route, was placed in commission. She had been named for the Civil War financier. The ALASKA followed in 1879, and the PEARL in 1888.

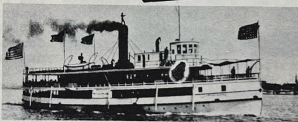
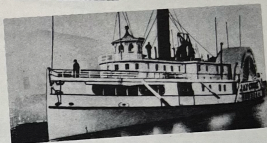
The FRANK E. KIRBY, which became the Flyer of the Lakes, came out in 1890, the first of the modern boats. Her engine came out of the ALASKA. Previous to this, it had been in the Revenue Cutter JOHN SHERMAN built at Cleveland, 1865, for the Revenue Cutter Marine.

The PUT-IN-BAY followed the KIRBY. She was built by the Detroit Ship-Building Company, for the route.

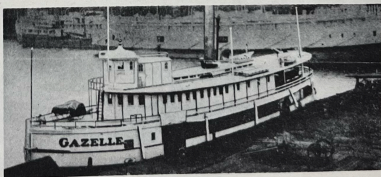


REVENUE CUTTER
JOHN SHERMAN
Built in 1865 for Government service. Engine used in Steamers Alaska and Frank E. Kirby

JAY COOKE
Detroit, the Islands and Sandusky in 1868



WYANDOTTE
Detroit, Amherstburg and Wyandotte in 1893



GAZELLE
Picture taken at Marquette when she took a Circus around the Lakes in 1886

CITY OF SANDUSKY
Sandusky, the Islands and Detroit in 1866



PEARL
Detroit and Sandusky in 1889, later Grosse Isle