

ROBERT FULTON AND THE STEAMBOAT

by RALPH NADING HILL

One August day in 1807 people who lived along the shores of the Hudson River saw a strange craft making its way slowly upstream.

This was the *Clermont*, the first commercially successful steamboat in the world. Aboard her was Robert Fulton, the American who had at last harnessed the power of steam to machinery that would one day drive ships across oceans.

In *Robert Fulton and the Steamboat*, Ralph Nading Hill tells the thrilling story of the remarkable young inventor who built a boat that opened a new era in American history.

About the author of this book:

RALPH NADING HILL is a native Vermonter who has had a lifelong interest in steamboats. In 1950 he organized a campaign to save the *Ticonderoga*, one of the last sidewheel steamboats in America, from the wrecker's torch, and served from 1950 to 1953 as president of the company which continued her in service on Lake Champlain. His *Sidewheeler Saga*, a chronicle of the steamboat from the early days—which also tells of the struggle to “Save the *Ticonderoga*”—was published in 1950. His earlier books were *Contrary Country*, and *The Winooski* in the Rivers of America series.

RANDOM HOUSE, NEW YORK