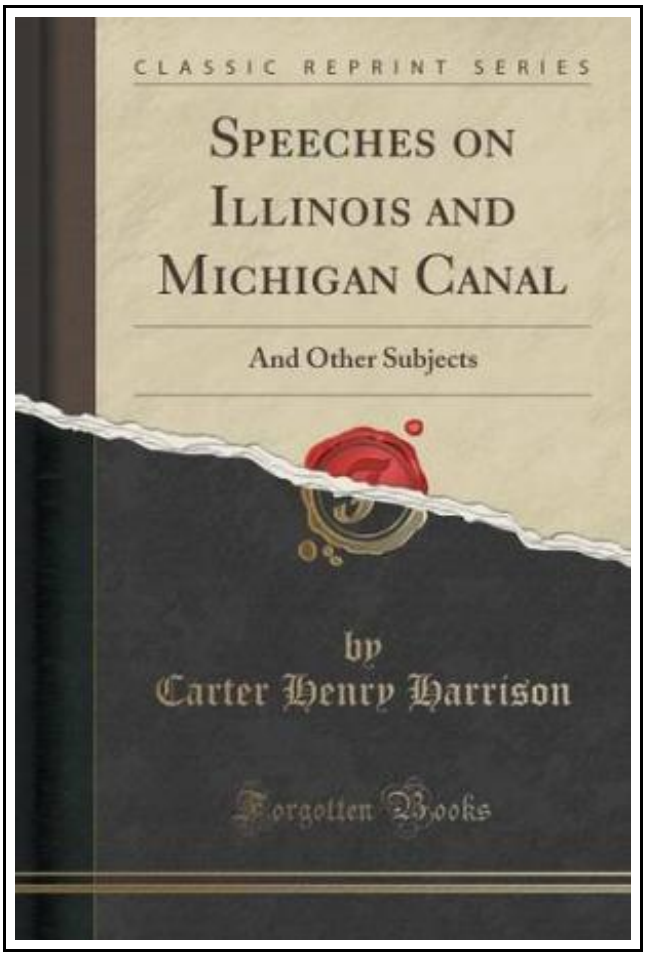
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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Speeches on Illinois and Michigan Canal: And Other Subjects In the northeastern corner of the State, on the southwestern bend of Lake Michigan, at that date was located Fort Dearborn, a small frontier post, guarded by a company of United States soldiers. Sir, outside the fort were the cabins of a half dozen white men (intermarried with squaws), who eked out a scanty subsistence by doing odd jobs for the people in the fort, and by trading with the Indians who came at stated periods to receive blankets, the gift of the Great Father at Washington, and to trade furs with the resident agents of the American Fur Company for the red man s treasures - whisky and powder. The fort and these cabins covered nearly all the dry land which lay within several miles. To the east was the great lake, three hundred miles long, sixty miles wide, and nine hundred feet deep. Its fountain waters were plowed once or twice a year only, by a small schooner, which supplied the fort and the fur agency. In all other directions, for hundreds of miles, stretched a wild prairie, low, flat, uninviting, and uninhabited, except by a few scattered tribes of Indians. Along the lake shore, sir, was a narrow, sandy ridge, a sort of natural causeway, only a few feet higher than the lake. Excepting this ridge, nearly all the land for many miles was a reedy marsh or a low prairie, so flat as to hold the spring rains in its tangled grass as in a sponge. A person on horseback, leaving this ridge, found himself, during the spring months, up to the...

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