

tity of lead, moulded in the earth, in bars about two feet long, and from six to eight inches wide, and from two to four inches thick, being something of an oval form, and thickest in the middle, and generally thinning to the edge, and weighing from thirty to forty pounds. It was not an uncommon thing to see a Fox Indian arrive at Prairie du Chien with a hand sled, loaded with twenty or thirty wild turkies for sale, as they were very plenty about Cassville, and occasionally there were some killed opposite Prairie du Chien.

About the year 1822, a man by the name of Hardin Perkins, from Kentucky, came to Prairie du Chien for the purpose of building a saw-mill in the Indian country, and obtained permission from Major Taliaferro, then agent for the Sioux Indians, with the consent of the Indians, to erect a saw-mill on their land on the Chippewa River and tributaries; but Perkins not having the capital to carry out his project, or sufficient influence to obtain the permission of the Indians to erect this mill, solicited Joseph Rolette and myself to join him, which we did, and contracted with Wabashaw's band of Sioux, who claimed the Chippewa River country, for the privilege of erecting a mill and cutting timber for it, paying them about \$1,000 per year in goods, and furnished Perkins the necessary means for the purpose; and he was to take charge of and conduct the business. He proceeded to Menomonee River, a tributary of the Chippewa, and on a small stream running into the Menomonee, about twenty miles from its mouth, erected a saw mill and had it so near done that he expected to commence sawing in a very few days, when one of those sudden freshets to which hilly countries are subject, came upon him and swept away the dam, mill and appendages, and Perkins returned to Prairie du Chien with his family and hands, having suffered during his residence there considerable from fear of the Chippewa Indians who resided near, and sometimes visited the mill builders.

Col. Snelling, who commanded at Fort Snelling, had frequently