

down in that way without any difficulty. The men now went to work and rafted it; got it nearly all to the mouth of the river, when about the 1st of June, it commenced raining, and continued most of the time very hard for a fortnight. The stream on which our dam was, rose in about twelve hours something like twelve feet, and the Menomonee River about the same, carrying away the dam, and sweeping the loose made cribs of lumber from their moorings, and scattered the lumber over the bottoms of the Menomonee and Chippewa rivers. About fifty thousand feet of this lumber was afterwards recovered in a damaged state, at a great expense, and taken to St. Louis and sold at a reduced price. Such were some of the difficulties attending the early attempts at lumbering in this country. The only hands that could be employed were the Canadian *voyageurs*; they could row a boat well, or run a raft, but that was about the extent of their knowledge of lumbering. Occasionally you could pick up a discharged soldier that had some knowledge of the business, and these were the materials that pioneer saw-mill proprietors had to use, and manage as best they could.

Shortly after this, Daniel Whitney, of Green Bay, obtained from the Secretary of War a similar permit to that granted to Mr. Rolette and myself, and built a mill upon the Upper Wisconsin.

Of all the foreigners that came to this country, the Canadians of French extraction seemed to have the least idea of the privileges of American citizenship. It appeared almost impossible to instil into their minds anything of the independence of self-government, and this was not confined entirely to the uneducated, but would apply more or less to the partially educated classes. They do not consider it a privilege to vote for the officers who are to govern them; and consider it only desirable to use the elective franchise in order to gratify some friend who has asked them to vote for himself or his candidate; and when so requested, they are too polite to refuse, unless a previous promise had been made to some other.