

again, with the three men, and had to drive two yoke of oxen back. When we arrived at the camp on Monomonee River, the men had a log cabin most finished, and were drawing the goods into it.

We had only been there a short time, when one of the men who was drawing a sled, slipped down and broke his lower jaw. Sergeant Melvin was a severe disciplinarian and believed in flogging a soldier for an accident. He ordered the man to strip and prepare to receive a few lashes. It was brutal to scourge a man who was already suffering with pain, so I told the man to keep his coat on. The Sergeant glared at me, but perhaps he discovered something in the expression of the men's faces, for he kept silent, and the man was put on the sick list. The men were divided into three gangs, two of thirty men each, one gang commanded by Melvin, another by me; and the third gang of ten men, remained in camp. It was my first duty to build a large flat boat, and having selected a piece of timber suitable for the gun-wales, we erected scaffolds and prepared pulleys and ropes to raise the log upon them. This preparation attracted the attention of Melvin, and he supposed the men were about to hang him. Fear had previously caused him to have built a small block-house in which he had placed all the arms and ammunition, and where he now unnecessarily shut himself up. He gave me orders through a loop hole, but would never come out to see if they were faithfully executed.

The work progressed steadily until the river opened. Trees had been felled, timber hewn, stuff for the flat-boat got out, and we had divided the log with whip-saws, and the parts were being hewed into the proper shape for gun-wales, when one of the men laid his thigh open to the bone with a broad-axe. It was necessary that the man should have medical aid, so Melvin made out his report of the work done, also a charge against me for creating mutiny, and appointed me to carry the documents and two wounded men—the man who broke his jaw was unfit for duty—in a dug-out down to head-quarters. I paddled down the river without accident, and entered the