

mentioned, Amasa Wilson, C. B. Smith, and R. V. Allen made a location in company, and built a shanty at the Dells Eddy, for the purpose of getting out square timber, for the lower river market. The shanty stood on the rise of ground at the foot of the Dells, where the house of Mr. Allen now stands, and where he has continued to live since the date of his first settlement. Mr. Allen can, therefore, justly claim the honor of being the first and oldest permanent resident in Juneau County.

In the spring following, the timber got out was rafted, and run out of the river, and sold at Galena. The next winter the same parties again worked in company in getting out timber at the same place.

These two winters' operations, together with that of Mr. Culver, about exhausted the small amount of pine timber growing in that part of the county.

Mr. Allen continuing to make his home at the Dells Eddy, turned his attention to piloting rafts through the Dells in high stages of water, and his house remained for several years the only sign of civilization between Point Bausse and Fort Winnebago (Portage City), except Grignon's trading-post, a distance of seventy-five miles by the river, and became a very prominent stopping place for the raftsmen on their annual trips down the river.

As previously mentioned, lumber operations had commenced on the Wisconsin River, above the Dells, before the settlement there by Mr. Allen. The navigation of the river with rafts of lumber, in seasons of low water, was extremely difficult and tedious, at times requiring several months to make the trip.

During the spring freshet of 1840, a Mr. Barnes left Point Bausse with a fleet of lumber for the Mississippi market. About the first of June following, he reached the foot of the Dells; and from the length of time consumed in reaching this point, he became satisfied that the greater part of the season would be required in making the trip to the mouth of the river. At this time, owing to the limited number of settlers along the river, it was very difficult, if not in fact impossible, to procure the necessary supply of provisions for a crew on a trip of any considerable length; and for the purpose of supplying, in part, any deficiency that might