

continued along down the river ten or twelve miles to near the north line of Juneau County, then started east to the Wisconsin River on their return home. They reported the discovery of very large bodies of pine, and of an excellent quality. But as the country on the Yellow River and tributaries still belonged to the Indians, no present advantage could be taken of their discovery.

Under the treaty of Lake Poygan in the fall of 1848, the Indians sold to the government all their lands lying west of Wolf River. This included their country on Wisconsin River and its tributaries—Yellow River being one. As soon as this treaty became known on the Wisconsin River, Mr. Werner and J. T. Kingston, employing Jo. Gill to accompany them, started to make a further exploration of the Yellow River country. Procuring a skiff and the necessary outfit of provisions, etc., at the rapids, they proceeded down the Wisconsin to the mouth of the Yellow River. Turning up the latter stream, they tried for two or three days to keep the skiff along with them for the purpose of more easily carrying their provisions; but owing to the low stage of the water, and the numerous trees and sand-bars across the channel, they were forced to abandon the skiff, and depend upon packing their provisions as best they could. Continuing on up the river for a distance of about twenty miles, they started across the country for home by way of Point Bausse. Game was found in abundance, and a plentiful supply of provisions was always on hand.

This trip was made for the purpose of finding a suitable location for mills and a general lumber business; and as they could not take possession, as they supposed, of any desirable points, if found, they left no marks to attract the attention of any other parties who might explore the country for a like purpose. The mouth of the river, and the present location of Necedah, were the only points which they deemed at all desirable for milling and lumbering purposes. The same parties, at a subsequent period, were again at the point now known as Necedah. They laid up three or four rounds of a log shanty, blazed a tree on either bank of the river, wrote their names, date of claim, and took formal possession, according to the claim laws and usages