

then existing in the Western country. A day or two subsequently Andrew Dunn and Hugh McFarlane reached the same locality; but finding the land already claimed, returned home without making any further explorations.

Werner and Kingston, returning to the rapids, met Mr. Weston, and a day or two afterwards formed a company to operate on Yellow River, under the name of T. Weston and Co., consisting of Thomas Weston, John Werner, Jr., and J. T. Kingston—the first a native of Vermont, the second of New York, and the third of Illinois.

Arrangements were then made to immediately commence operations. Uriah Hill and Usal V. Jeffreys were hired to run a small raft of lumber down to the mouth of Yellow River, with instructions to put up a shanty about eighty rods below the mouth, on the west side of the Wisconsin, and also to clear off and fence a small amount of land adjoining.

A few days after Hill and Jeffreys left with the raft, Weston and Werner started for the Yellow River country, for the purpose of selecting a suitable place for logging operations during the ensuing winter. Reaching the river near the point where they had left, in the winter of '44 and '45, they traveled down stream a few miles; and finding a grove of pine which they thought sufficient to answer the purpose, Werner returned again to Grand Rapids, and Weston continued on down the river, intending to meet Kingston at the shanty at the mouth of the stream. On reaching the shanty, he found that Kingston had arrived there two or three days previously. Remaining over the next day, the two started in company the day following up the river, for the purpose of more thoroughly examining the grove of pine mentioned, and also for the purpose of looking out a suitable route for a road to Point Bausse, the nearest point from which to obtain supplies for the camp. Being satisfied with the timber, they took as direct a course as possible for Point Bausse, blazing as they traveled the route of the proposed road.

It was now about the middle of November, and there being neither roads nor houses in that section of the country, and the snow from six to eight inches deep, they found the trip rather