

be found on Yellow River above the claim made by Werner and Kintongs the fall previous, at the present location of Necedah.

The winter passed off in the usual manner with loggers in the pine woods, hard work during the day, and the song and story after supper in the evening until 9 o'clock, when all hands would "turn in" for the night. Daylight always found the men and teams in the woods ready to begin the day's work when there was light enough to see.

Sunday was a day of rest. There being neither neighbors to visit, nor return visits, the time of the men was mostly passed in the camp. Some had their old logging experience to relate. Others were fortunate in finding an old newspaper or perhaps a book, while others forgot the cares of life in the bunk.

The fall of '48, and until late in the following winter the weather was extremely cold; and it was remarked by those who paid attention to the matter, that it did not thaw in the shade from the 5th day of November until the 21st day of February. On the latter day the thaw commenced, and on the 22d the camp was broken up. Kingston with two or three men and the teams started for Point Bausse, it being necessary to get the cattle across the swamps and marshes without delay.

Weston, with the rest of the hands, except Daniel Dugan, the cook, who was left to keep camp, started down Yellow River for the purpose of cutting out the leaning trees in the stream. A hand-sled of suitable proportions was constructed on which to haul provisions, camp fixtures, etc. For the first three or four days they made good progress on the ice; but at the end of this time the ice left them, and they were driven to seek a road on the bank. The work was now more difficult, and the progress slow, and not until the sixth day after leaving camp, did they reach the point selected for the mill. Here they were met by Kingston and the men with him, who had gone around by Grand Rapids, and from there by way of Strong and McCartney's tavern, on the road leading to Portage City, about twelve miles east of the Pete-en-Well Rock, with two loads of lumber for the purpose of building shanties at the selected point. Two days were required to cut the road through to the Wisconsin River; but on reaching there the ice was found unsafe for crossing the teams, and passing over the river on foot, they made their way to the Yellow River, meeting Weston and his men as before stated. After a consultation the idea of building shanties at the present time was abandoned, accordingly a track for the sled was bushed through to Pete-en-Well, and all hands took the road from there to the Grand Rapids, to await the opening of navigation on the Wisconsin.

After remaining at the Rapids for a few days, a part of the hands started again for the camp for the purpose of making ready for driving the logs. Reaching Cranberry Creek, they found it very high; and for a distance of thirty or forty rods on the west side of the creek, the water was from two to three feet deep, and covered with a thin sheet of ice, not sufficiently strong, however, to bear them up on foot. Suiting their actions to the necessity of the case, after crossing the creek, they all assumed a horizontal position and