

In 1847 the tower was bought by Washburn & Woodman, a Mineral Point law firm, which was doing an extensive land business. Thus the enterprise begun by a Green Bay merchant, and so long controlled by Buffalo capitalists, comes into the possession of Wisconsin citizens of the lead district.¹ For two years the tower was run successfully by the new firm,² then it seems for a time to have suspended operations, for early in 1850 we find that it was reported as abandoned. In this year Daniel Thompson³

¹ *Weekly Northwestern Gazette* (Galena), June 11, 1847.

The following, from the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, is quoted in the *Wis. Herald*, July 10, 1847, p. 2: "*Wisconsin Shot*.—Another fleet of 'Prairie Schooners' eight in number, arrived here yesterday morning, bringing some sixteen or seventeen tons of shot from the Wisconsin Shot Tower at Helena, 24 miles from Mineral Point. This Tower is now owned and worked by Messrs. Washburn & Woodman, of Mineral Point, and can turn out from 5 to 10,000 lbs. per day. The agents in this town are Messrs. Miller & Cushman. We learn from Mr. Miller that he sold last week thirty tons of this shot for the Montreal market. The retail trade of our own city and vicinity has long been supplied from the same source, and there is no doubt that ere long Wisconsin shot will be a leading article of export from Milwaukee to all cities and towns along the lakes."

² Adv. in *Ibid.*, Sept. 3, 1847: "*Shot Agency*.—I am appointed Agent for the sale of shot from the Wisconsin Works, a supply always kept on hand.

E. HEMPSTEAD."

Adv. in *Ibid.*, Jan. 8, 1847: "*Shot ! Shot !*—500 Bags just received (all sizes) direct from the Wisconsin Tower, and for sale by

CAMPBELL & SMITH."

³ Daniel Thompson was born June 1, 1821, at the village of Sacarappa, in the town of Westbrook, Cumberland Co., Maine. His father commanded a sailing vessel during the War of 1812-15. Left an orphan at three years of age, he was brought up by his uncle, Ephraim Flint. At eighteen he graduated in the civil engineering department of Norwich (Vt.) University. After a year at sea on a whaling ship, he went to Mineral Point and found work with Washburn & Woodman in the government land office. He next settled at Pekin, on the Illinois river, and carried on a grain and provision business until the building of the Illinois Central railroad destroyed it by turning the trade to Chicago. After a year spent in Mineral Point and at Helena, he went to Chicago; and in 1854 engaged in the elevator and storage business as a member