

was hired to make a quantity of shot for Henry and Nathan Corwith, of Galena. He spent the summer and fall at Helena, and from his account we learn that things were much dilapidated. Part of the shot made by Thompson¹ was sent in kegs to Milwaukee by ox-teams from Pike county, Ill.

In June, 1852, Ralph Flint² was sent to the tower to superintend the works and attend to the shipments of shot. Most of the shot was still hauled to Milwaukee by oxen, but part of it went to Galena by boat.³ In the autumn of 1852, Flint tore down the old finishing-house and rebuilt it with lumber floated down from the Wisconsin pineries.⁴

of the firm of Flint & Thompson. In 1880 he was compelled to leave on account of ill-health, and went to Louisiana, where he has since been engaged in sugar-raising on the Calumet plantation, at Patterson.

¹ He employed John Evans as shot dropper; Evan Lloyd to dry, polish and size the shot; and Peter Lloyd to weigh it and sew up the sacks.

² Ralph Flint was born at West Baldwin, Me., in 1830. He came West in 1849, and was for a time employed in a packing-house belonging to his brother in Pekin, Ill. After the firm removed to Chicago, he returned to West Baldwin, where he remained till the spring of 1852, when he again took charge of the Helena tower. From here he went to Richland City, and for a few years engaged in saw-milling. In 1855 he sold out his interest and opened a lumber yard at Avoca, where he remained until the spring of 1859, when he returned to his native town where he has since resided. Flint served in the Army of the Potomac during the last year of the War of Secession.

³ In 1851 a company was formed at Helena to build a steamboat; among its members were E. M. Greer, John Cameron, and Alvah Culver. The boat was loaded with wheat and went down as far as Memphis. Here it was condemned, and was sold for a barge. When the boat was being launched near the warehouse, a party of musicians led by Peter Lloyd and William Persell played Yankee Doodle. Unfortunately, the boat stuck on a sand-bar before it reached deep water, and so this launching ceremony was wasted.

⁴ Flint stayed at the hotel of Archibald Bernard, and slept in a room in the warehouse. John Evans was dropper, assisted by Evan J. Davis; Peter Lloyd sized the shot; and Dr. Giddings (nephew of Joshua R. Giddings) weighed the shot and sewed up the sacks. The men were called from work by striking a large kettle which, suspended on a pole, did service as a bell. Wishing one day to call Peter Lloyd, and being unable to attract his attention, Flint struck the kettle such a blow that