

## UNIT 1: THE RISE OF TECHNOLOGY (1870-1896)

### Topic: Lumber Industry

#### Lesson 5: The Memories of a Raft Pilot

##### Objective:

Students will recognize how the steamboat was used in guiding rafts of lumber on the Mississippi during the late 1800's.

##### Materials:

*The Memories of a Raft Pilot:* Captain J.M.Turner

##### Activities:

1. Introduce the lesson by reviewing the previous day's lesson, focusing on the hazards encountered by free-floating raftsmen.
2. Direct students to *The Memories of a Raft Pilot* by Captain J.M. Turner. Discuss the fact that as steamboats became more common on the Mississippi River they were used to guide rafts of lumber. This account describes how raft pilots were guided through the treacherous Rock Island rapids near Le Claire, Iowa.
3. Read the selection together as a class.
4. Compare the hazards described in this selection with those identified in the Wisconsin River account.

<p>Explorations in Iowa History Project, Malcolm Price Laboratory School, University Of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa ©COPYRIGHT 2003 University of Northern Iowa <a href="mailto:Lynn.Nielsen@uni.edu">Lynn.Nielsen@uni.edu</a> Duplication for Instructional purposes only. Credits: Logo and site design by ITS CET Documents courtesy of the State Historical Society of Iowa</p>
--