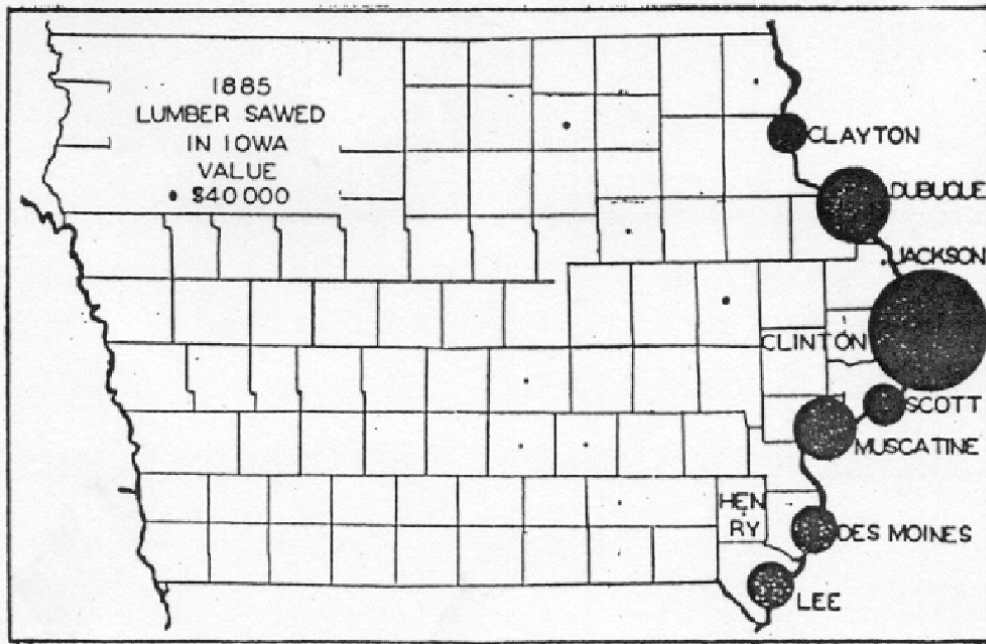


Lumber Sawed in Iowa, 1885 (Value is in proportion to the areas of the circles)



The lumber industry illustrates how Iowa was tied to the national economy. Most of the logs for Iowa's sawmills came from the forests of Wisconsin and Minnesota. This raw material was rafted down the Mississippi, processed into finished lumber and millwork products in cities along the Mississippi River, and shipped out of Iowa again to distributors and retailers across the country.

The documents in this section provide an overview of lumber production from the viewpoint of those who lived during the late 1800's.

Following is an annotated list of the materials in this section:

1. **Life In A Lumber Camp** by George Austin Woodward. This booklet contains a colorful description of life in a lumber camp during the late nineteenth century. Typical of camps in Wisconsin and Minnesota, the author describes the physical features of the camp, traditional dress of the man as well as the process of cutting timber.
2. **Lumber Rafting on Wisconsin River**, by Simon Augustus Sherman. Sherman first describes the process by which logs were formed into rafts. He then goes on to give a narrative account of a raft trip down the Wisconsin River. This description is an excellent account of lumber transport prior to the use of the steamboat guided raft.
3. **The Memories of a Raft Pilot**: Captain J. M. Turner. Turner was a raft pilot during the days when steamboats were used for guiding log rafts down the Mississippi. The treacherous rapids at Rock Island posed particular problems for raft pilots. Two resident raft pilots would assist oncoming rafts through the rapids on a first come first served basis. Turner describes

an incident when several rafts jockeyed for position in order to be guided through the rapids first.

4. **The Dubuque Lumber Reporter.** This simulated newspaper is a composite of the lumber market reporting column of the *Dubuque Weekly Times* for 1880. The information selected for this newspaper provides helpful insight into the seasonal nature of the saw milling industry and the relationship between the rafting and milling industries.
5. **Musser Lumber Company (Advertising Pamphlet).** This pamphlet contains not only photographs of the Musser Company but two excellent descriptions of the grounds and operation of the company's mill and yard.
6. **M. A. Disbrow and Company (Catalogue)** This catalogue contains selected examples of the finished millwork characteristic of the late 1800's. A page of customer accounts is also included in the catalogue to demonstrate the wide distribution of finished products.

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