

**THE BATTLE
of
CAMERON DAM**

by

Malcolm Rosholt

Malcolm Rosholt

THE BATTLE OF CAMERON DAM

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 74-79082

Copyright 1974
by
Malcolm Rosholt

All rights reserved

No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form
without written permission from the author.

Printed in the United States of America

JOHN F. DIETZ

Defender of Cameron Dam

on

Thornapple River

by

Malcolm Rosholt

FOREWORD

The trial of John F. Dietz, charged with murder in the first degree, was held at Hayward, Wisconsin May 2-13, 1911. Most of the events leading up to his arrest at Cameron dam on October 8, 1910, were brought out in evidence at the trial. Thus when reference is made to "the trial" it is to this trial that I am referring.

On October 25, 1906 the weekly *Osceola Sun* (Osceola, Wisconsin) published a special "Dietz Edition" which featured a long letter written by Dietz that gives his version of events at Cameron dam between 1901 and 1906. While he wrote other letters to the press, this is the most important one covering this early period and it is quoted from at random.

Research on the story began in the late 1950s and continued into 1961. Three trips on foot through the woods were made to reach the site of the old dam and explore the terrain around the one-time Dietz homestead, although the log buildings have long since disappeared.

Several people who helped with information or photographs are already dead. I take this opportunity, nevertheless, to express my appreciation to them, and to the living as well, to wit: Mrs. Harry Hanson and Richard Andrews, Spring Brook; Mrs. Matt Egstad, Cameron; Mrs. Orma E. McEldowney, West Salem; Ronald F. North and Gerald E. Joas, Chippewa Falls; Robert V. Antenne, Rice Lake; Paul M. Angle, Chicago; Mrs. L.G. Hestiken and Doris Friedman, Eau Claire; Fred C. Berg, Wisconsin Rapids; Burton L. Dahlberg, Spooner; James Taylor Dunn, St. Paul; Richard A. Erney and Margaret R. Hafstad, Madison; Bryan Southern, Bemedji, Minnesota, and an especial thanks to Judge Walter J. Duffy, Harold Gobler, Keith Kuehn and Laura McLaggan, all of Sawyer County Court House at Hayward.

Malcolm Rosholt
1 River Drive
Rosholt, Wi. 54473

The Battle of Cameron Dam - Link Page

[Next](#)

[Contents](#)

5

[Return to Electronic Index Page](#)