

**DOCUMENT 35 – LETTER FROM EDWARD B. TALCOTT TO WILLIAM H. SWIFT
CONCERNING RAFTING TIMBER ON THE CANAL**

May 11, 1849

TRANSCRIPTION

Canal Office

Chicago May 11th 1849

Capt. W^m H. Swift

Pres^t. B^d of Trustees

Sir,

Considerable difficulty
occured in the early part of last Season
from the improper management of rafts upon
the Canal, Which induced me to with hold further
permits as provided in Sec. 135 of 'Rules, By Laws
& &c'. It is often a difficult matter to
discriminate between persons who would, and
those who would not manage a raft properly
until they have made a trial, and still more
difficult to prevent improper persons from
obtaining their object indirectly.

I would therefore recommend that Sec.
135 be repealed—allowing any person to raft
timber Subject to the general regulations —
relying upon the penalties as stated in Secs.
N^o. 38. 39 & 40 to insure their proper management,

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Svt

Edw^d. B. Talcott

Chf Engr.