

land they were leaving, increasing and hopeless poverty was ever present, and want and oppression were the lot of the poor, with no ray of hope for the better.

With tearful eyes and hearts full of grief, they took their last leave of friends and fatherland; and with few earthly goods, but rich in firm resolves and hopes, they embarked in an open barge. Before starting, Landamman C. Jenny,<sup>1</sup> representing the government of the canton of Glarus, addressed the colonists in words full of feeling. He urged upon them the necessity of industry, harmony, and unity; and commending them to the care of kind Providence, bade them God-speed and farewell. And so, amid the tears and kind wishes of an immense concourse of friends and relatives, the boat-load of emigrants started on their way and slowly began a wearisome journey towards an unknown land. At the start, the colonists chose two of their number, George Legler and Jacob Grob, to act as leaders and spokesmen during the migration, to exercise general care and supervision over everything connected with the journey, to preserve order, and to hear and redress all complaints. The colonists on their part promised to obey the directions and abide by the decisions of these leaders.

Before reaching Zurich, the weather had become inclement and snow fell, the closely-packed open vessel soon becoming uncomfortable and unfit for the passage of so many. So inadequate was the space, in consequence of the unexpected addition to the number of the company, that there was no room to lie down; and when night came, those who could slept as well as possible in a sitting posture. At Zurich, it became evident that this crowded condition must be relieved, or great distress would prevail, especially among the women and children. The Swiss bundesrath was at that time in session at Zurich, and the Glarus representative, Cosmos Blumer, kindly provided teams and covered wagons, in which the women and children found more comfortable passage, and in which they followed the vessel on shore until they all reached Basle, about fifty miles from

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<sup>1</sup> Died at Glarus, May 25, 1892.