

On the fourth of July, Mathias Duerst states in his diary: "We saw the most imposing ceremony that any of us ever saw in our lives. It was the funeral obsequies of the former president of the nation, Gen. Jackson. The space in my whole diary would be too small to describe the splendors and the solemnities we witnessed. Thousands on thousands of horsemen were in the procession, and the honors done to the memory of the great man who, like Cincinnatus, was several times called from the plow to the head of the nation, were impressive and grand. At this point, two of our families not having been provided with any means for further travel, made known their condition to the leaders, and it was determined to advance them fifteen dollars each out of the small relief fund of the colony, so as to provide them with food until the men could get employment, which they accepted with many thanks, and they remained at Baltimore."

Later, Duerst writes: "On the fifth of July, one mile out of the city, we got on the cars for the first time. Then we experienced the greatest pleasure in our lives. None of us had ever before rode on a railroad. We passed with the speed of the wind through splendid fields and wooded valleys. The eye feasted on rapid changes, on rich grain fields, and fruitful orchards; and then we went by tasty, elegant dwellings. All this proclaimed American wealth and prosperity to us, and the troubles and hardships of the weeks just passed were forgotten in the hope that some day we might call a like-appearing country our home. The train took us to the Susquehanna river at Columbia, where we left the cars and loaded our baggage and persons on the canal boats which were to carry us to Pittsburgh. These were totally inadequate for our numbers. We were packed in like a herd of sheep. Thirty to thirty-five human beings were put in a space twelve by seven feet; many could not even sit, but had to stand up the whole night. In the morning, more boats were provided. They were drawn by one horse each, and we had plenty of time to step out and buy milk or other provisions, the speed was so slow, and the stoppages many. At Hollidaysburg, the canal termi-