

considerable numbers around us at no great distance, but as we were upon the bank we were not at all molested by them as we otherwise might have been.

The Wisconsin is a large, rapid and majestic river but full of sand-bars which renders navigation extremely difficult and impossible for a large craft. It is remarkable for the abundance of islands with which it is studded and many of them finely timbered. There are comparatively few places where a person can see clear across the river, and it is said that there are fifteen hundred islands from the Portage to the mouth which is a distance of about 180 miles.

The second Sabbath, June 22nd. we passed at a place called the Pine Bend¹ on the Wisconsin, about 60 miles from the Portage, where was a small settlement, and a few individuals were present and attended religious worship with us. The day following we were obliged to lay by the whole day on account of a severe storm of rain. We arrived at Prairie du C. on the 25th and finding that Dr. W. had left we made no tarry. In descending the Mississippi to Rock Island we encountered a severe easterly storm, and although drenched with rain our health did not suffer in the least. This river was unusually high, as most of the islands and some of the bottoms were under water.

Sat. eve., 28th. we arrived at Rock Island and were

¹ Pine Bend (Helena) is mentioned in Fonda's "Reminiscences of Wisconsin," *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, v, p. 260, as the point where Atkinson's army in pursuit of Black Hawk and his Indians crossed the Wisconsin River after the skirmish at Wisconsin Heights. About 1830 a shot tower had been built at Pine Bend (called also old Helena) on the south bank of the Wisconsin, about twenty miles northwest of Blue Mound. The town had grown up for the accommodation of the shot makers, but had been deserted at the breaking out of the Black Hawk War. The remains of the tower are still visible near the south end of the Spring Green wagon bridge. The crossing of Atkinson's soldiers in pursuit of Black Hawk is mentioned in Thwaites's "Story of the Black Hawk War," *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xii, p. 256. As to the shot tower, see the last reference, also *id.* xi, p. 203, and Libby's "Chronicle of the Helena Shot Tower," *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xiii, p. 335.—W. W. W.