

well clad. I had to dress her throughout. Remember my age! I can, in fancy, see at this moment the clothes I made for her. It is needless to say she was of very little use to me, having never lived a civilized life. She, however, could take steps for me, and she could fight the man, which she did on all possible occasions.

At this time, all by myself, I was trying to master the English language, and learn to read. My husband was too busy to give me much instruction, as he practiced law by day and read it in the evening. I do not believe he realized how little I did know. He had given me writing lessons before we were married. I never attended school a day in my life, but learned to read a little from my grandfather, who taught a class of boys, but who would never oblige me to do aught against my will and pleasure. Being a spoiled child, it was my pleasure, it would seem, not to study. This was a great trial to my mother, who had received a good education.

Some time in March, 1825, we thought best to change our quarters. A house, opposite the residence of Robert Irwin, Jr., which had been a store, but was now converted into a dwelling house, we took for a few months only, as it was our intention to go to Mackinac in the summer.

My husband had to leave home in May, to attend court at Prairie du Chien. Judge Doty and he made the journey on horseback, taking for guide and waiter the faithful government blacksmith, an Indian, and one of the most reliable persons I ever knew. These gentlemen never thought of traveling, either by land or water, without the attendance of Awishtoyou.

The morning after my husband's departure I found myself alone, as my Stockbridge maid had decamped in the night. Yet I found friends who were willing to dispel my loneliness. Betsy Irwin or Agatha Grignon would come and spend the night with me in turn, and occasionally Elizabeth Grignon.

At last my husband returned, and the time came for my departure to Mackinac. On the twenty-third of June, 1825,