

every one who desired to go to Chicago had to come around by way of Green Bay. There was no other way to get there except by sail vessels, which were very irregular in their trips.

Our boat waited in Chicago some days for a load. Travelers overfilled the boat going West, but few passengers went East, and no freight. The society on these boats was very good, consisting largely of ladies and gentlemen who were in search of new homes, and who seemed to be glad to meet with Western people. The boats were luxuriant, nothing could be more comfortable; the tables were good, the servants also. One most important person on these stylish boats was the chambermaid; and one fared well who secured her friendship. Jane Wigg was the last I traveled with. There was nothing she would not do for me or mine. I crossed the lake with her several times. These boats had two departments besides the steerage. Ladies who had small children preferred taking the lower cabin, on account of its conveniences. There were two cabins, one below and the other above.

We continued on our journey and at last reached our dear old home. The children did not dread the visit. We visited Mackinac annually, and they were always happy to be there. My mother and grandmother were expecting us, but felt greatly disappointed that we could stay with them for so short a time, as the boat remained only an hour.

On our arrival at Detroit we found our friends expecting us. Mr. Baird left there the same day. At Detroit I was the guest of Mrs. R. Forsythe, a lovely person. She was the sister of my very dear friend, Mrs. Seth Rees, who had gone to Detroit some weeks in advance of my arrival. I enjoyed the visit very much. Mrs. Forsythe had visited me at Green Bay. At Detroit I found the widow of Dr. Wolcott of Chicago, she whom I had known in 1816 as Helen Kinzie. She was soon to marry George Bates of Detroit. She was a splendid woman. She lived only a short time after her marriage. My stay was short in Detroit, as my husband was to return at the earliest moment, and I wanted to