

by 30, has a fine bell & is occupied as a school house, for the present.

21. A methodist family invited us to lodge with them. I got my waggon into a barn & my harness into a loft to winter, while I took the road on horseback. In the course of the day I viewed the place & found some acquaintances, one of which was with Rev. Mr Kent of the Presbyterian church.¹ He is the only preacher of his order in the mining country. He is very catholic & friendly in his views & feelings, & evinces a great warmth of piety. I preached for him at night, to a less congregation than we had, the night before, in our own church. Our respective churches are about of a size, say 30 members each, but his includes all the members of his church in the mines, while ours extends but little out of the town. Within the bounds of country including his members, we have one or two hundred.

22. Left Galena for the north in a sleet storm. It soon covered me with ice. My umberell became too heavy to carry, but too much frozen to let down. I was obliged, therefore, to call at a house & thaw it before I could fold it up. I then took the storm in the face, & before I reached a stopping place, I had at least 20 lbs of ice hanging to me & my horse. About 3 oclock P. M. I arrived at Major [John H.] Rountrees, Plattville, in the Wisconsin Territory, having rode in & out of my way about 30 miles. The Major was not at home, but his wife,² the daughter of a Methodist preacher, knows how to take care of preachers.

¹Rev. Aratus Kent was born at Suffield, Conn., Jan. 15, 1794, and graduated from Yale in 1816. After serving pulpits in the East, he was, in March, 1829, assigned to Galena by the American Home Missionary Society; having previously asked the Society "for a place so hard that no one else would take it." He organized at Galena the first Presbyterian church in the lead mines, and there labored zealously until December, 1848, when he withdrew to other fields. He died November 8, 1869. See *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xiv, p. 93, for account of his visit in 1833, to Fort Winnebago.—ED.

²Rountree, who settled at Plattville in 1827, married Miss Grace Mitchell, Aug. 7, 1828. Mrs. Rountree's brother (not father) was Rev. John T. Mitchell, a pioneer preacher on the Galena mission. Mrs. Rountree died Oct. 16, 1837.—ED.