

in circumference, & mostly covered with timber. The west one has in it a cave which has been explored 1 or 200 yards, & after winter set in a rattlesnake was found crawling about as in summer. I was relating this circumstance to a lady of truth, a few days after, who informed me that she lived at a spring on the Pekatoneka a few years before, in which snakes lived the whole winter—the spring was so strong & the water so warm—If any of them ventured down stream a little they became chilled even before the water froze. I climbed to the top of this mound from which I had one of the most beautiful landscape views I ever beheld. The course of the Wisconsin about 60 miles & the Mississippi for 100 by the high ridge on the opposite sides of them. These ridges with one south & east of Bean or Fever river forms an Amphitheatre of a triangular form of about 60 miles in diamiter, with these Mounds nearly in the centre, from which the most of the country could be seen, interspersed with groves of timber and beautiful & rich Prairie.

Nov. 27. Rode to Galena, & the next day to Apple River, 14 miles, & held the first quarter meeting ever held there for the Buffalo grove Mission. The place was in sight of the old fort, distinguished for a battle in the late Black Hawk war. About 40 men women & children repelled the attack of about 200 armed savages. The women loaded the guns, run bullets, &c for the men to fire. The whites had one killed & one wounded, while some 12 or 14 of the Sacs & Foxes were shot down. But this place had more interest to me as being the place where Bro. Luggs, the last Missionary & first appointed to the mission, found his grave in the 23^d year of his age. A friend had built a neat paling round it, over which I could but shed a tear of sorrow & sympathy. I was a missionary 900 miles from my family; I could see no difference between 900 & 3,000 miles to die at from home, whether seperated from it by the ocean or by a western forest. My feelings were, therefore, considerably effected. I held the first love feast & administered the Lords Supper for the first time in that neighborhood.