

city. There are numerous other fine churches, especially noticed one built in gothic style. We noticed the ruins left by the terrible fire which devastated the city that spring, and which in 6 hours had destroyed 1200 houses besides some churches and a fine bridge. They are rebuilding however with the usual American speed and I believe that at the end of this year there will remain but few traces of the fire. Most splendid buildings have Phoenix-like arisen from the ashes.

I found Mr. Jost Ruch from Mitlödi [in Glarus], an old friend; he is a milkman, he brought me and wife and another friend Barbara Blesi; he treated us to good wine in a hotel and kindly invited us to go with him to his house a mile from the city. After much search we finally found the Grob Bros. and required them to give an account of our regular and extra expenses so far. They made a claim on our Company for 32 florins due them, we demanded at first and wanted vouchers for this claim which they could not furnish, but after much talk the amount not being for any one individual to pay but by the Company, it was finally allowed and paid. After this was settled we discussed as to how the remaining 85 florins were to be disposed of; the direction of the giver was that it should be expended for the benefit of the most needy. I with others were for the carrying out of these directions, but that was the hardest task of the whole voyage to so expend it. To be sure there were several families entirely destitute of money, and in consequence had to remain in Pittsburgh; but among those were such as had lived better during the whole voyage than the others, who paid for sleeping in soft beds while others more provident were satisfied to lie on hard berths. It was finally decided to divide it equally among all, which gave each person $37\frac{1}{2}$ kreuzer [$18\frac{3}{4}$ cents]. I and family and a number of others went to Mr. Ruch's place and were entertained with most generous hospitality with the best in the land. At dusk we returned to the River and the Steamboat where we had already taken lodgings, although [we had] not yet contracted for passage. Had just got on board when the wife of J. C