

Legler was taken with pains of labor and in half an hour she was safely delivered in greatest quietness of a boy. Mother and child were well, although they lay in a berth near the boilers where the heat was smothering. These steamers are different from the European. The freight is packed in the lower hold, the Engine and Boilers are in the second floor as well as the kitchen and the cheapest class of passengers. And it is unbearably hot, the boilers are forward, the engine is simple and merely drives one propelling wheel in the rear of the boat. The third floor is the Cabin extending nearly the whole length of the boat, on both sides of which are the state rooms; in the center is the Saloon furnished with greatest American splendor — the floors covered with finest carpets, chairs, pictures and mirrors in the latest fashion; from the ceilings hang ground glass globes in which lights burn in the night. Great pitchers filled with ice water on the tables: in short all of the conveniences of a grand house; three times a day meals are served in best style such as we in Switzerland only serve on great occasions. Refreshments of all kinds can be had between meals. On the upper deck is a little room with windows for the steersman. The cabin passage is better, but the other worse than in Europe; there both classes are on the same deck, but here the one who has money walks over the head of the one who has none.

On the 11th, morning I again visited Mr. Ruch accompanied by Fr. Legler, Jr. to get my family which had remained there. We had an American breakfast and then all returned and embarked on the steamer or rather in the purgatory. But before writing further I must describe Mr. Ruch. In the year 1817, driven by poverty from his birthplace Mitlödi he served as servant nine years until he had saved some money, then he bought land and he now owns \$300,000 of property and a homestead on an elevation surrounded by fine gardens that would be the envy of many a German nobleman. Inside one would hardly imagine himself in the abode of a farmer, but in that of a grand capitalist; from the threshold to the roof the floors and stairs