

few years, then if I wanted land I would have means to buy some near some town; it need only be large enough to provide for the necessities of life from its products. I could still work at my trade and sell its product in the town or city. In this way I might in a few years become a man of means. I replied that the land had already been bought for me, the money laid out. He replied that it was not even worth while to talk about 20 acres of Government land; and becoming somewhat excited said, if you dont want to follow my well meant counsel, you may go into the wilderness and work the hide from your back, if you prefer that to the other way, by which you may live like a lord.

16th During yesterday's conversation the Captain told me that we were all to land today, that I should so inform the passengers so that he might count them, and this took place today. We paid him one dollar per person and he gave each a ticket to Cincinnati; today we arrived at Portsmouth and halted but 20 minutes, so we saw nothing of the town except some houses from the river. Many of them were like palaces. We in haste bought some food and ran on board again for no one desired to get left.

17th This morning at two o'clock we arrived at Cincinnati. We had thought that the same boat that brought us from Pittsburgh would take us to St. Louis. We had made the contract with the Captain to the latter place but it was announced that our boat went no farther and our contract was cancelled. So we sought to get passage on another vessel. I went on one, and found the mate who spoke very good German, and made a contract¹ with him for St. Louis which was a little more to our advantage than that made

¹ The following copy of the contract with the captain is given on a fly-leaf of the diary.—Ed.

CONTRACT WITH RIVER CAPTAIN.

The Captain of the Cincinnati Steamboat undertakes the Swiss Company under the following conditions:

Persons over 14 years \$2.00 Children under 14 to 8 years reckoned 2 for one person, and under 8 years free.

In consideration therefor the Captain binds himself to bring us as speedily as possible to St. Louis, and we are also assured a place for cooking and sleeping also wood and light; each person has 100 lbs baggage free, the overweight must be paid at 30 cts