

other close. In one respect we were glad of it for we believed the rain would raise the river; for nothing is more annoying than to desire to get along as fast as possible to carry out our mission, and then to be stuck on one spot.

29th Not until 9 A. M. today was it possible to move our boat slowly from the spot; we then steamed with various degrees of speed until at 3 P. M. we again stranded. We tried our utmost and every one who had hands worked at the windlass but all in vain; towards evening another steamer came towards us which also ran aground, but through the efforts of their crew were able to get off in two hours. Both Grob and I looked longingly at the vessel for we believed it possible that Judge Duerst might be on it, but although the two boats came so close as to touch we were unable to discover him. A dreary impatience possessed us because of our delay; we laid us down but little sleep came into my eyes, partly because of the Mosquitoes, but principally because of the many people almost destitute of everything, that were waiting for our tidings at St. Louis. And we are having such a tedious trip.

30th. This morning all of the power and muscle on the boat was again applied to get us off. The wood was all used up, and we all went into the woods, the Captain included, and carried out wood; the steam power was raised to the highest point and about ten o'clock we again moved, but only four hours did fortune favor us; at two o'clock we were again stuck but only for an hour; towards evening we reached the village of Pekin and made $\frac{1}{2}$ hour's halt; we used the time to purchase from a German, Swiss cheese, but made in America, and bread, for we had not provided enough in St. Louis for us, and on the boat food was too dear. We started and hoped to be in Peoria for night, but we stuck once more 5 miles from that place.

31st. Today we rose at dawn and as our boat was aground as if it had grown there, we went on a flat boat also the crew; but you can imagine what snail's pace it was — a boat manned by only eight men loaded with many tons of freight to row against the stream; and some of them so drunk as