

to fall in the water at times; we only arrived at 12½ o'clock in Peoria. Here good counsel was scarce; we inquired at the Postoffice how far it was to Peru and the fare; it was 75 miles, they demand \$4.00 for each of us. We could not agree to that for we had only that much money in all with us. As there were no boats for Peru we had to march to Rome, a small village; here we met a German tailor, a friendly good man, he told us that near by a farmer named Underhill owned 1,000 acres enclosed land which he would rent in small or large parcels; it was plowed and he would supply tenants with cattle, tools and food and necessaries on credit and that his rent could be paid with produce. The rent was \$1.00 per acre per year, or if one prefers, one third of the products. Dwellings were on the land and nearly all of the village belongs to the same man; and as it was called Rome, he was termed the Pope. The tavern in which we lodged belongs to him; we had to pay for lodging and two meals, one dollar for both.

August 1st. This morning I went to the German tailor for whom I mended three tin dishes, while my companion Grob wrote a letter to St. Louis to report our trip so far. This tailor named Brodbeck urged me to settle here because there was no tinner here and the town was growing and much building was done. That although he was a tailor he had often mended tinware for farmers, for which they paid well; and as I understood working in copper and iron, I would find a bright future. I might first rent a few acres then buy. That he also came poor into this country and now had 2 cows, 4 calves, Hogs and a horse, a pretty house, and a good young wife, but I could not stay. We went always on foot, for the fare for us both was \$5.00 to Peru on the stage. Our road led us through regions that would rejoice the eye of the most despondent, many miles over the Prairies on which countless herds of cattle could have bathed in the thick rich grass. Then again through pleasant woods, good water everywhere and pure air, here and there a settler; at times we stopped and asked for and received buttermilk. We strode forward stoutly, neither of us quite sure that