

peared to me that an invisible charm kept us from getting any nearer to these men. But we left here this 8th of August at 7½ A. M. and rode all the time until afternoon, when our teamster switched off to the right and drove a couple of miles through a valley, where we finally came to a log house and saw again human beings the first since morning. Our teamster made inquiries and ascertained that they were yet 2 miles further on; again we proceeded to another house, there our driver halted and would go no farther. We however prevailed upon him to at least go with us on foot and show us the direction to take, for there was neither track nor road. A boy showed us along a piece further in the proper direction, until we saw men. Grob and I had taken another direction, but had to turn back because we could not cross the creek which flows through our land and which swarms with good fish. Judge Duerst and Mr. Streiff saw us floundering along, and in the supposition that perhaps we were people of their company, they came to meet us. The feelings that then rose in us, I cannot and will not describe. To all of us came the tears of joy. After the excitement of finding each other had subsided in a measure, we went into the huts they had made at first. You may imagine that from both sides came many questions and answers until late at night. They prepared supper for us — Judge Duerst baked the bread. We also the same evening walked a short distance over our land and enjoyed the splendid sight — it is beautiful beyond expectation. Excellent timber, good soil, many fine springs and a stream filled with fish. Water sufficient therein the whole year to drive a mill or saw mill. Wild grapes in abundance. Much game, Deer, Prairie Chicken and Hares, in short all that one could expect. This 8th August is therefore the fortunate day on which we arrived at the glad certainty as to the whereabouts of our land and our expert pioneers.

On the 9th of August we, Judge Duerst and I, rode away, to bring our people from St. Louis to the settlement with a Mr. Rodolf a Swiss from Aargau who had been here to assist our experts for several days. He had been their