

guide in the search for land and conveyed them from place to place with his horses.¹ Mr. Grob and Freuler, who had come with me from Peru, staid, but came with us a short way to cut a road through the woods and to mark the trees so we should not get lost; but it began to rain in streams, which compelled them to return. But we took some stakes along, to drive into the prairies the better to find the return route; we so proceeded until noon when we had dinner with a farmer. In the evening we arrived at Mr. Rodolf's farm of 220 acres, but he has no wife.

We staid there over night and the next morning on the 10th went afoot to Galena where we arrived in the evening after a hard march; this same evening we went to the river to see about a steamer; there were two but both were bound up the river; on one of them however we learned that another would arrive in the night to return tomorrow to St. Louis. We went to get some much needed rest, especially I, who from the hardships undergone had a severe dysentery which has much weakened me.

On the evening of the 11th we really saw from the garret window where we three had slept on a straw tick, that another steamer had arrived. We hurried to get there but I had not proceeded more than half way, having been delayed, when to my glad astonishment I saw Judge Duerst completely surrounded by our people; what a scene that was!² I had in my thoughts already pictured the joy of meeting them again with Judge Duerst at my side. I joined myself to the crowd and I was also greeted with glad shouts. How much greater was the gladness with the Judge? for we Diessbachers especially, loved him as our life. So much depended

¹ See Theodore Rodolf's "Reminiscences of Wisconsin Territory," *post*. He advised the Swiss colonists; and his brother Frederick entertained them at the family farm on which the Rodolfs had settled in 1834.—ED.

² See *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xi, pp. 359, 360. The remainder of the party, left in St. Louis, alarmed at the long absence of Mathias Duerst and Paulus Grob, had engaged passage to Galena, happening to arrive there on the evening before Judge Nicholas Duerst had reached that town to engage passage to St. Louis, to escort them to Wisconsin.—ED.