

happened to be passing by, he shipped all his passengers—men, women and children, over fifty in number—on the raft, and we were landed safely at Wheeling. Quite a number were from St. Louis, homeward bound, with some of whom I was acquainted. We succeeded in hiring several coaches to take us to Cincinnati, where we expected to find the Ohio high enough for safe navigation. We traveled day and night, and arrived at Cincinnati without any serious accident, except that one of our coaches broke down one night, and we had to walk about a mile and a half to the next village, where the injury was repaired. As we had anticipated, we found no difficulty in proceeding by steamer from Cincinnati. We glided down to Cairo, and then steamed up the Mississippi to St. Louis. After visiting there among friends for a few days, we took a Galena steamer, arrived at the mines in due time, and getting on the stage reached home after an absence of over two months.

After having traveled many hundreds of miles by stage, we came very near having the most serious accident within about half a mile from Mineral Point. It was late in the evening and very dark. Our stage, going at a rapid rate, struck a stump in O'Neill's grove and upset. There were nine persons inside, and two up with the driver, making eleven passengers. Nobody was seriously hurt. A young lady passenger fainted, but was soon returned to consciousness, and brought safely home.

In January of the next winter, when the ground was covered with snow to an average depth of from two to three feet, and the thermometer was down to 40° below, I started in a sleigh with H. S. Dodge, who was running the governor's furnace near Dodgeville, on an overland trip to Milwaukee. It was a long and tedious journey. The first day we drove fifty-three miles to Madison, then quite a small village, where the legislature was in session. I had a chance to see the shell of the \$140,000 capital building. The next day we reached Janesville, on Rock River, which was a growing and enterprising village. The next