

of May, 1865 from Bremen and took passage on a large three-mast sailing vessel where, during a very pleasant forty-two day voyage, I arrived in New York as free and happy as any young man could be. Having a good trade and a fast working man, I knew I could make a good living anywhere, especially in the United States of America.

This commenced my second chapter of a new life and, as I looked out at Central Park, I became to learn at once the greatness of this country, but I only stayed in New York until October '65 when I got tired of city life, as I had tasted and seen enough of everyday life and went over to the State of New Jersey in the Town of South Amboy where I remained during the winter, which I found to be very severe so, in February 1866, I took the ill fated Evening Star from New York and, after an eight-day trip, reached the City of New Orleans, the flower state of the Union. Here is where a man can live free and easy and certainly I went in with all there was until I tired even of that and started for the inland where I found good work, good people and good air in Bastrop, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana. That is where I first commenced to learn how to talk English as there were very few Germans with whom I could converse and, after I had a good start so that I could make myself understood, I took an interest in it.

I stayed until July 1867 and went again to New Orleans, for what, I don't know, only I suppose to spend the money that I had made, never realizing the danger I was in, for the City was not only in bad shape financially but was also chock full of yellow fever, so much so that I finally left as it got too thick for me and I went up to the LaFarge. I was looked upon with suspicion and went through a great deal of hardship on account of coming from an infested district and, not being admitted into several towns on the Mississippi, I finally got on a Red River boat which brought me to the City of Alexandria on a Sunday morning in the beginning of October and, with it, the yellow fever, unless it had been there before because the first, a Mr. Sween,

died a few days after I landed. The town did not look very inviting and, after making inquiry, I went to Pineville on the steam ferry and found ready employment by a man by the name of Frank Etheridge, who had left the State of Arkansas on account of the K. K. K. who were after him on account of running away during the war and would not fight but I found him an honest, upright man, and his wife a very estimable lady who looked upon me more as a relative than a stranger. During my first stay in Pineville, I soon made the acquaintance of the young men in the town who were all as lively a set as I ever met and, being somewhat of that disposition myself, I soon was one of them and learned a good deal of their ways; some I adopted as being good, others I refuted. Being mingled mostly with English speaking people, I soon talked readily with anybody.

It was in the summer of 1868 when for the first time I took the fever or, in other words, the fever took me. At first I fought with it all I could but it downed me every time. Mr. Etheridge and his wife did everything they could but it failed so I concluded to change the climate and, having once made up my mind, I carried it out and left on the Steamer Frolic for New Orleans and from there took a steamer to St. Louis in the hot month of July with the highest kind of fever on me both day and night and nobody to care for me. I frequently think about how careless a young man can be to go traveling in such a condition as I was in. My friends in Pineville begged me to remain, showing me the danger I would be in going on the road in the fix I was in but, as I said, I was determined and left, but never will I forget the misery I was in when we arrived in Memphis, had no appetite and was so weak that I could hardly walk. Neither do I forget when one night between Memphis and Cairo on the steamer, I was attacked by two roustabouts who were in the act of robbing me and perhaps would have knocked me in the head and thrown me in the river but, in my misery and weak condition, I discovered their intention in time and made alarm, when my assailants quickly withdrew. We finally, after an eight-day trip, reached