

more than 300 yards wide. On the West side are the remains of old "Fort Independence,"³⁷ erected during the late war for the protection of the Frontier Inhabitants. 12 miles brought us to "Little Capo Gray" where we saw several settlements, & it being dark all hands retired to rest, the same ceremony of the appointment of watch having been gone thro' as the night previous.

August 19th.

At day break passed the "Illinois River" on the East. A short distance below this commences a ridge of Rocks (about 1200 feet high, very irregular, and forming the most antic appearances that can possibly be imagined), which continues as low as "Portage De Sioux," the shore on the west being low and sandy. This Town is prettily situated & is not more than 2 miles to the nearest point of the Missouri, being 8 above its mouth. Finding our progress to be but slow we left the Keel Boat and again taking to our canoe passed the Town of "Alton," on the Illinois side, having a large Sandbar in front of it; 3 miles further brought us to the mouth of the Missouri, which we welcomed most cordially as an old acquaintance, and at 5 P. M. reached St. Louis having come down the Mississippi from the St. Peters, a distance of 900 miles.

³⁷"Fort Independence" was one of the many temporary stockades erected in St. Charles County during the war of 1812. It is probably the same defence that is mentioned by Shaw under the name of "Fort Cap au Gré."

HENRY CLAY DEAN—1852.

We had the pleasure of listening to a couple of discourses by the Rev. Mr. Dean of Muscatine, at the Methodist church of this city on Sunday last. For beauty of diction, clearness of logic, depth of thought, force of illustration and brilliancy of imagination, we have seldom heard those sermons equalled. The weather was unfortunately so inclement that the congregation was small. Mr. Dean possesses in an eminent degree a metaphysical cast of mind united with strong reasoning faculties and vivid imagination. We understand he was a successful lawyer in the state of Virginia.—[Burlington Telegraph] —*The Western American*, Keosauqua, Iowa, April 10, 1852.

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