1871-1872 Caspar Morris journal #799

Caspar Morris
journal 1871-72

decay and often connected
with historic associations
of all ages since the Rhine
was the stream across which
the savage Alemanni
drove their fabled neighbours
into the Roman provinces of
Gaul. and Drusus and
Agrippina made it famous
by their story so well told by
Tacitus. Legendary lore, in
later periods thrown far
back on the dim distant
vista of years for us, has
lent its glamour to these
naked ruins peopling them
with knights & ladies and
monks & nuns struggling against
their destiny, filling every
nook with stories of wrong
and outrage. The river
appears to have worked its
way down through the chasm
through which it flows, as the
elevation of the tops of the various
points is about the same, and
whenever we could catch glimpses
through the ravines the top appeared
to be a great plain teeming with
agricultural riches yellow corn
fields ripe for gathering giving
a golden hue to the distant
prospect contrasting strongly with
the rich green of the vine clad cliffs.
The ~~ladies~~ crews looking back as
the boat glided through the various
passes were wonderously beautiful
and some of the party were able
to identify some of them from
their familiarity with Heroic or
decor of Rhenish scenery.
After leaving Bingen the stream
which had been compressed
between the hills & rushed