

Journal at Petroski

Sunday, Oct. 7th 1854

Awoke this morning with the sound of the church bell, when shall I again hear the bell of Occushnet. We shall soon leave this place, & in the good weather continue to be soon to be on an American deck once more very differently situated from the last one. At sunset embarked on board the *Big*, was very kindly received by the Capt., a rough but whole hearted sailor. The wind began to increase, and at 9 P.M. we slipped our cable & endeavoured to gain an offing. We made but little headway before we had to come too under short sail, with a gale from N.E. and thick fog. Then we were again at the mercy of the wind and supposed that we were fast nearing the bank on which the *Citi* was lost. Monday was passed with no enviable feelings, and night brought no hopes or change. About 9 P.M. the officer of the deck called out at the gangway, *Tide*, with an addition which caused us to hasten on deck. The *Big* was fairly in the breakers, but being short and light, she came round, without forging much and we were soon out of them.

The morning brought brighter prospects, the gale had broken, and soon cleared of showing us the land about 12 miles to the S.W. of Petroski. The wind dying away we were unable to get back that night till after dark & it was so late then that we did not anchor. Next morning clear and bright soon after breakfast saw a sail standing up the bay.