

idea of picking up that which lies on the ground ; it is permitted to rot. Apples, pears, plums, quinces, peaches, nuts of every description, chestnuts, cherries, &c., ripen fourteen days earlier than in other States, North and West, which must be of great benefit. Indeed, I tell you, a Paradise awaits all who come. I know for certain that nobody will ever repent of it for one hour, but the contrary will be the case. With very little labor and trouble one can make a good living here and lead a happy life. I ask you all, can you do that in Germany? No. Of course the first year one has to accommodate himself a little, but at the same time you must not think that you will be transferred into a primeval wilderness, but rather into a country where one can bring to market all sorts of vegetables in the first year. Nobody will ever suffer hunger. Suppose the case he should have no flour, he takes a boat and goes into the bay and catches oysters. When we arrived on the farm the owner (knowing that the two gentlemen liked them) had some oysters taken out by two negroes. In about two hours they had caught about five bushels; the bushel costs in the market one and one and a half dollars, according to the season. They catch the oysters with double iron rakes fastened together like tongs on a long pole; they bring up every time about a dozen oysters. With large rakes they would have a bushel in a quarter of an hour. This is a very profitable occupation in the winter months for those who will work. A good hunter can make plenty of money in the fall and winter in shooting wild ducks &c. Also millions of fishes are tumbling in the water, which was moved by them—therefore hunger is out of the question here.

A countryman whom I met on the boat, and who carries on duck shooting during the winter to while away his time, told me that he gets in the market one dollar for a pair of ducks. He is already fourteen years in that neighborhood, only ten miles farther up; he looks quite different from a poor little countryman from the "Alp." Another advantage we have in a *brook* big enough to feed a saw and grist mill. There was a saw mill once there, but only the house remains, though dilapidated. During the slavery times, they principally carried on the wood-cutting business. A good well is about three hundred yards from the bay; its water runs down into the bay.

Tobacco they plant also. In the evening we enjoyed it, smoking tobacco raised on the farm. This is something for our good friends in Benzinger; therefore do not delay any longer; prepare yourself and go the promised land. You can commence at any time. If you begin late in the year you can make a handsome harvest next year.

I could write much more about the lands, but the letter is full and it may otherwise be too heavy. To all of you I send my hearty greeting. Your faithful brother,

JOHANNES WOLZ.