

wished. It is black and grimy and smoky, and the streets, for dirt, beat any we have yet seen. A week or so later we modified this opinion and thought the palm should be given to Saint Louis.

A patriotic shopkeeper silenced our complaints of the filthy condition of the streets at the latter place by saying it showed what splendid agricultural properties the soil possessed !

Everything lies certainly in the point of view !

Meanwhile, at Cincinnati the river went on rising day by day, the snow fell, likewise the rain, the mud thickened if possible, every one looked gloomy and recalled the terrible floods of two years ago.

We were only too glad to pack up and escape whilst escape was still possible.

Even then the water was over the wheels of our train as we left the station. Next day the trains were unable to run at all.

Having had a gentle introduction to the dangers by flood, we were next to be initiated into the delights and conveniences of the system of American "stageing," the very name of which inspires me still with a feeling of most deadly repulsion.

Having come to see the Mammoth caves of Kentucky, there was nothing for it but to sleep at