Jefferson enjoyed travel. It constituted a vital part of his geography. W. M. Davis had once admonished him to "go and see—and see and understand." In his years at the Normal College he did go and see. Frequently he understood. His major sorties, usually undertaken in the summer vacation months, took him through three continents. On some of these trips he was to make lasting acquaintances with geographers and, occasionally, a resident of another land. He made his conversation engaging and learned from his traveling companions—this much he had made a practiced art. He sought out people's experiences seemingly aware of the fine line that separates personal experience from personal values and by diligent practice and careful management encouraged his conversant to tell where he had been and what he had seen. He carried a camera, notebook, and pencil on his trips. His notebooks always became repositories of the most detailed observation, and were invariably accompanied by diagrams and reference to slides he had taken. Usually a straw hat purposively covered his head. He would stump along at his own pace, his legs strong by usage, covering often twenty miles in a day. Experiences and knowledge gained from these travels came to form a significant part of the geography he taught and wrote. There were many other field excursions which he undertook in the midwest, usually of two or three days generation. Frequently his findings from a trip would find their way into a paper he wrote, and very frequently into his textbooks. He preferred to illustrate his own texts with photographs which he had taken, just as he preferred to write of matters which he had personally observed. He was always just a little suspicious of the printed word and much preferred to see phenomena for himself. He was a great believer in the process of observation and so
followed in the wake of many nineteenth century thinkers whose work he quite respected.

The outings provided him with recreation which was a valuable alternate to his life in the classroom and the study. A recounting of the essentials of his more meaningful trips is a vital part of recounting Jefferson's life as a geographer. The more meaningful trips referred to include: Cuba, 1903; Norway, 1904; Colorado, 1910; Liverpool-Rome, 1911; the American Geographical Society Transcontinental Excursion, 1912; the ABC Expedition of the American Geographical Society, 1918; Arkansas, 1921; Panama, 1926; Iberia, 1935.

Jefferson's trip to Cuba in 1903 was in large part a response to numerous invitations from Cuban school teachers he had taught at Harvard in the summer of 1900. The Cuban schoolteachers escorted Jefferson the length and breadth of their island. He took many photographs, later converted into slides for classroom use, improved his Spanish, and was shown every social consideration. However he was not given much opportunity to prowl on his own and see what nature had to offer, then stare at it, and most likely convert his vision into a sketch. While on the island he began to develop an interest in the effects wind exerted on trees, an interest which revealed itself a few months later in "Wind Effects," an article published in the *Journal of Geography*.¹

His visit to Norway, and more especially the Jostedalsbrae, was of a much more purposive nature. It was his first independent field work, undertaken entirely for reasons of personal satisfaction and at personal expense. It seems probable that Jefferson had set his mind on a visit to Norway prior to his departure for Cuba in the summer of 1903. Evidence suggests that he had commenced a refurbishing of his knowledge of the Scandinavian languages which he had acquired during his South American years. He had purchased a *Baedeker* of Norway and was planning his journey. The College at Ypsilanti was not able to offer him any financial support for field study. Neither was the Jefferson family monied, but both husband and wife considered the outlay of such money a happy investment. Jefferson had become a family man of modest taste. He had learned to gauge carefully each expenditure before his money was committed. The maintenance of daily expense accounts doubtless encouraged his frugality in addition to adding precision to a life which he seemed anxious to frequently weigh, assay, and measure.

This was the first intense and extended geographic field work Jefferson undertook alone and for his own satisfaction. His destination was the ice sheet, the Jostedalsbrae, of West Norway. As he later wrote:²

*I went to Norway in the summer of 1904 to familiarize myself with the work in modifying topographic forms that the largest ice sheet in
Europe is doing. This is the Jostedalsbrae, the word brae meaning any permanent sheet of snow or ice, moving or stagnant, level or inclined. It has an area of 360 square miles, and lies between the heads of Northfiord and Sognefiord, distant from the Atlantic 60 and 90 miles respectively by those fiords, at an elevation of about one mile above them. I visited this ice sheet by the Northfiord because the Olden and Loen lakes at its head lie close under the edge of the ice, though themselves only 150 feet above the sea, amid scenery that Richter has called the most characteristic in Norway.

It is likely that Jefferson's inspiration for this journey was derived partly from a course, G7 Physical Geography of Europe, taken under Davis at Harvard in 1898. In the notes Jefferson made from Davis' lectures, there is ample reference to the views of Richter, Playfair, Russell, Tarr, and Davis himself, concerning the mode of origin of certain types of Norwegian valleys, later known as hanging valleys. It was at that time that Davis was changing his views on glaciation, using his classes and pupils as part correctives to his thinking out loud on the subject. Davis announced his new position concerning the work of ice when he published "Glacial Erosion in France, Switzerland and Norway," in The Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History.4 Doubtless a ten-day excursion across Norway with the Director of the Norwegian Geological Survey, Dr. Reusch, was in part responsible for changing Davis' views concerning the work of ice. He reinterpreted the creation of the fjord and sent Jefferson postcards filled with scribbles and diagrams that bore witness to the man's excitement. Much of Davis' enthusiasm rubbed off onto Jefferson whether it was at Davis' tea parlor, in the university classrooms, through correspondence, or wherever else chance threw the two men together.

The ex-Kentucky cavalry man, and "Poet-Scientist", Shaler, of Harvard, also exercised an influence on Jefferson. Shaler's book Glaciers, with W. M. Davis as collaborator, had appeared in 1881 and had been read and annotated in the margins by Jefferson. William H. Sherzer of the Ypsilanti Normal Geology Department also possessed a marked interest in glaciers and the work of ice. Sherzer had already planned a trip to the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks for the summer of 1904 which was sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution. The two men frequently broke bread with each other and organized local Michigan field trips, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that Sherzer's trip design and preparatory readings aroused the curiosity of Jefferson.

The vessel, United States, took ten days to sight the Norwegian coast after making stops at Iceland and Scotland. Jefferson describes his impressions on seeing Norway for the first time:

We soon made out a "fiord shoulder" as Suess calls the abrupt descent
from the fjord surface. The shoulder on either side was individually like enough to a Scotch cliff. The sky line however was at once distinct in its ruggedness from the Scotch shore. Smooth contours seemed quite lacking, and as the clouds rolled back the nakedness of the rock and its brownness, not in cliffs merely but everywhere was strikingly novel... not 5% of the surface green. Smoothing everywhere showed glaciation. I spoke of smooth contours in Scotland. The smoothness here was different. Scotch landscape lines were in mile long curves, these lines curved strongly in a hundred feet but sharp jagged points were not typical. Lee and sloss forms abound. What a hungry soil! There was no earth on it! All the earth had gone to Denmark and Germany across the Baltic as I have so liked to say of Ontario’s loss to Illinois, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio. The thought is at once how can people live here?

The 10,000 ton, United States, dropped anchor in the roads of Christiansand on July 16. Jefferson learned that his boat for Bergen, the Arendal, did not leave until the following evening. He wished to rest a few hours at the Baedeker recommended Hotel Ernsts, but instead he recommended the hotel to some of his traveling companions, “I am not sure I ought not to have gone myself to learn about books and maps and things but I thought of expense.” He read from the local Norwegian newspaper that little had happened in Manchuria since his departure from Ypsilanti, “beyond the taking of 3 forts about Port Arthur by the Japanese.” Then he sought a berth on the steamer, Arendal, rested on the boat in place of the hotel, and awaited the departure for Bergen. On Sunday morning Jefferson wakened to find himself in Flekkefjord, his first fjord. Immediately he scribbled notes of what he saw and felt, which were later transcribed into his field notebook:

The fjord waters are so smooth that anyone dwelling by them would inevitably be tempted to sail them, had he no better ship than a raft. How different the experience of the dwellers on Argentine coast or Vera Cruz coast! Not boldness of Norwegians gave them command of the sea but tameness of their extensive inshore waters coaxed them to sail. Sailing once, they ventured sooner or later out on the Atlantic. Were they not even helped by the certainty of escape in storms to secure refuge in shore in inlets.

As he traveled through other fjords, anchored a while at Egersund, then Stavanger, before reaching Bergen, Jefferson wrote extensive notes concerning the size and shape of fjords, their beauty, the houses he saw on fjord ledges, the evidences he surmised in support of glacial origin, and wind effects on trees. Before reaching Egersund he wrote:

Norway in these regions is a land of naked rock. No one looking at it
would hesitate to believe the world the ball of rock it essentially is.
How would it strike my students who have to go 60 miles to see a
ledge! New England has a good many patches, little patches, of bare
rock: this part of Norway has rare patches of soil. There is no com-
parison possible between the two regions. New England may be rocky
but Norway is rock! I never saw so much rock in my life.

In Bergen Jefferson registered at the *Baedeker* hotel and promptly set
off to have both his spectacles and his aneroid barometer mended. Both
had broken during his first day on board the *United States*. Then he
visited a bookstore, purchased, for one kroner each, four sheets of the
*Nordre Bergenhus Auit* which adequately mapped Jostedalsbrae. He
wanted more data, more maps, more literature concerning West Nor-
way and the Jostedalsbrae. Disappointed to learn that the 70,000 vol-
ume city library was closed until mid August, he consulted the Bergen
museum library with more pleasing result:

> Went up to Museum and met Director Bronckhorst former botanist
now occupied with administration and even gone into politics so he
spends his winters in Christiansand. He speaks English and he put in
two hours telling me where books were. We got a list together with
some difficulty since the system used by the librarian was somewhat
singular and Docent Kolderup had all the geological works in his
office, which did not occur to us at first. He took me over to see the
meteorologist, with whom I tried to converse in German and who was
agreeable but said there was no map of isotherms, isobars or rainfall
for Norway. Seemed not to want me to ask about some weather maps
I saw he was preparing. Could not tell me the local variation of
compass. Had never seen a rainfall map of Norway. Showed me a lot
of data by Mohn of Christiansand, a famous meteorologist.

He stayed in Bergen for several days, promenaded in the city, read
the newspapers, enjoyed the fruit and the fish markets, took brisk walks
into the hinterland, observed hay drying, berry gathering, and house
types. He marveled at the freshness of water “that comes leaping over
the rocks in the good Norse way,” the views “which at one hundred feet
are unsurpassed,” and he delighted in “being off all day and returning
clean and cool, there being no dust.” While in the environs of Bergen
he wrote:

> *Davis’ Hanging Valleys are not satisfactory in explanation. Here they
are to be seen close to Bergen and no glacier ever dug out the main
valley. It is too short, too winding. Another explanation will win ac-
ceptance. I thought I had WMD’s paper on the Hanging Valleys and
 glacial excavation in my trunk but do not find it. Still his main point is
surely that when a side valley comes in high above the level of the*
main valley, the only adequate explanation is that the main valley has contained so much greater a glacier than the little one that the greater weight of ice has dug it out much deeper. Here however we have these hanging valleys opening into valleys not ever the abode of considerable glaciers.

On leaving Bergen, the Alden soon found passage into the 60 mile long North Fjord. The journey to Loen at the fjord head was not a direct one. The Alden stopped at Davik, then entered a branch of the fjord calling at Nordfjordeid, before proceeding to Loen, where Jefferson witnessed only three hours of twilight each night as the sun sank only a little more than 10° below the horizon. On either side of the fjord and high on the vidde, Pre-Cambrian rock bespoke an inhospitality.

Jefferson stayed for the next several weeks at Loen, a village then of 19 families and 118 people. A hotel of true West Norwegian character, within walking distance of the Jostedalsbrae, provided honest fare at a price convenient to Jefferson's pocket. He wrote of his journey along the North fjord:

*This fiord is some sixty miles in length to hardly three in width. It is enclosed in strong slopes descending from snow-spotted uplands two or three thousand feet above. In the sunlight it is grand but gloomy more often when roofed over tunnel-like by clouds that hang below the summit of the walls on either hand. At the fiord head is a mile-square patch of land that has inhabitants. It was anciently a delta of mountain streams built into the head of the arm of the sea when the land stood a hundred and fifty feet lower. Looking back over the fiord from this terrace, the scene is one of greater promise for men. Here on the terrace and about the lake above 368 people dwelled in 1904. The valley has been settled a thousand years. The land under such circumstances is very precious. It has no ascertainable price. It is not bought or sold. Each point has its own name and the people all have that name too. Thus the main settlement Loen has thirteen peasant proprietors and "always has had." Each of these families is named Loen, the individuals being distinguished by their christian names commonly with the addition of their father's name, as Marcus Andersen Loen, Rasmus Johansen Loen, Anders Marcussen Loen and so on. Infrequently individuals are found with the name of a neighbor settlement, but the rarity of this denotes fixity of residence through the generations. Jefferson mapped the area as a first task, and was fascinated by the human distribution he found. Clinging to a thin layer of soil around the lake or on the lower fjord terrace only a little west of the largest ice sheet in Europe were eleven settlements, each very nearly self-sufficient.*
Jefferson was especially interested to meet the people of these settlements. He was not able to communicate with the children whom he saw frequently gathering berries, but with the adults he had success in both Norwegian and Danish. He occasionally hired a Loen, Bodal, or Helset to act as his guide, or to row him across one of the larger lakes. He came to know some of the people well and corresponded with one of them for several years after 1904. It was from this source that he learned with sorrow that the two settlements of Bodal and Naesdal near the lakehead later perished to, “a great wave from the lake, caused by the fall of an enormous mass of rock from the cliff above.” Already Jefferson’s interest in man on the land was making itself clearly apparent. He studied carefully the type of dwelling standing in this part of Norway, sketching it, writing of it, photographing it. The better houses were made of wood planks, four inches thick, planed, tongued and grooved, the walls being held together entirely by the dovetailing at the corners and partition ends, the roof frequently consisting of birch bark and sod. This study in composition and form of the house as a response to local environment was one of Jefferson’s major interests. A large percentage of his slide collection comprises pictures of “house types” and ranks him one of the first American geographers to treat the inquiry seriously.

Staying at the Hotel Alexandra in Loen, at the head of the fjord below the lake, which in turn was situated below the glacier, Jefferson journeyed daily to different parts of the ice sheet, taking pictures, making notes, always pondering what he saw. It excited him to think that the route by which he approached the Jostedalsbrae from Loen was hardly known in geographic literature of the time. The focal point of his interest concerned the tongues of the Jostedalsbrae:

The ice accumulations of the Jostedal plateau are disposed of by melting and plunging over the cliffs in numerous streams, by falling bodily over the cliffs at more than a hundred points—the so-called glaciers of the second class—and in more than twenty great tongues of ice that cascade into the chasms at the fjord head. Two of these enter the Olden and Loen Lakes.

He wrote extensively of the Kjendals Glacier, the Brixdals Glacier, and the Saeter Glacier, also on several hanging valleys which he observed. The conclusions he reached were summarized and published:

I saw in the Northfjord moderate evidence of a glacier’s power to grind its bed of rock with rock fragments for tools, some hanging valleys that may be the work of tributary valleys, as in the current explanation; more that seemed due to the enormous headward erosion of botner glaciers near the snowline; great activity of frost at all levels
away from the coast and of running water below four or five thousand feet above the sea, operating to carry rock waste seaward so rapidly that it had little chance to weather during the trip.

The fjord farmer fascinated him quite as much as the ice sheet, which man-land relationship seen first hand further encouraged his departure from the physiography of W. M. Davis. His notes and approximately 250 slides taken during the summer served him well on his return to Ypsilanti when he gave numerous lectures before a variety of groups concerning life in West Norway. This theme did not escape an edition of his *Man in Europe, Teachers Geography and Principles of Geography*, or *Exercises in Human Geography*.

Jefferson's return journey to New York proved eventful. The boat returned via Scotland and Iceland collecting passengers at both ports of call. It was with one of the passengers who came aboard at Reykjavik, Iceland, that Jefferson fell to talking. The stranger told Jefferson of his Icelandic parentage and his desire to speak Icelandic fluently. Jefferson in turn told his companion of the height of storm waves in the Antarctic Ocean, this while the pair stood to the fore of the boat, pitching violently in mid-Atlantic. The passenger from Iceland was Vilhjalmur Stefansson. Stefansson and Jefferson were to become firm friends, growing to respect each other's work deeply. The following year Jefferson helped Church minister turned geographer, Albert Perry Brigham, compose and illustrate a paper—"Lake Loen (Norway) Landslip of January 1905"—which Brigham delivered to the Association of American Geographers' meeting, New York, 1905. Several years later, Jefferson presented a paper to the 1914 Chicago meeting of the Association, entitled "The Gulf Stream." The abstract reveals one of the ways Jefferson built his formal contributions around his personal observations:  

*Considers the problem of the portion of the Atlantic to which this name is to be applied, the nature of the Gulf Stream, and its effect on the climate of Europe, with personal observation from Cuba to Norway.*

The summer of 1910 saw Jefferson, together with W. M. Gregory (graduate of the M.S.N.C., 1894, and Head of the Geography Department, Teachers College, Cleveland, Ohio, 1909-1928) and W. E. Shuler (Fort Worth, Texas), studying the Rocky Mountains of Colorado under the guidance of W. M. Davis. Previously in Harvard's classrooms, Jefferson had studied the Colorado River of the West, writing a paper of that title for a W. M. Davis course early in 1897. In 1910 the work constituted part of a field course in advanced physiography, sponsored by the Harvard Summer School14 and proved to be the first of three
summer field excursions which Jefferson experienced in three consecutive summers under the leadership of W. M. Davis. Davis proved to be a most competent and thorough guide; he had either seen or walked the Rockies in 1869, 1877, 1883, 1891, 1897, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904, 1909. Jefferson made ample notes in the field in four small notebooks, made sketches, took photographs, listened intently to Davis' exposition for more than three weeks in July. Following the departure of Davis, Jefferson spent a further few days with Gregory in the region before composing a 31 page paper entitled "The Rocky Mountains of Colorado," which paper was later submitted to Davis for the latter's approval.15 The paper commenced with a statement of purpose:

It was proposed to exemplify the method of description by structure, process and stage by applying it to a number of points in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado visited this summer. The general method has been to note salient items in the topography from the point of view of origin, with these to frame a theory of the genesis of the land forms of today, and then, turning the attention away from the present details, to deduce the logical consequences of the theory adopted, and finally to confront these deductions with the facts of nature. The last two items amount to prediction from theory of forms not observed and then looking for them.

For a thorough account of the physiography of the party's mountain study one may read "The Colorado Front Range" by W. M. Davis published in 1911.16 Probably this sixty-two page statement accounts for the reason why Jefferson never published his own writing in whole or in part. More important than an account of the itinerary was the confrontation of Davis by a Jefferson thinking, teaching, and writing a variety of human geography. The letters Jefferson sent to his wife illustrate very clearly his great regard for Davis' powers of observation and interpretation and reveal his almost fiercely held belief that human geography had a greater appeal than physiography and would one day win for itself total respect from geographers. Excerpts from the correspondence provide:

The rocks were splendid and the weather all right. W. M. Davis showed us many points I should not have seen . . .17

Davis made us see Pene-plains and cycles that I should never have seen without him . . .18

You would laugh to see our strenuous endeavors to draw and suit our leader . . .19

He (Davis) seems disappointed at the prospects at Harvard. Jackson has retired, there is no instruction in palaeontology, and he has "no students", only two or three, he says, come to take his courses. We
chaff him some about the earth having been made on his plans but he takes it very well. As work this is interesting, but nothing like so much so as my human geography studies. Of course many of these are great earth features and of interest themselves for those who can get at them . . . it is not practical to make studies of the human features much, for W. M. Davis will not be turned aside for them. That must come later. It looks as if he had not been successful.

I believe I think less and less of the purely physiographic work Davis advocates and does, the more I see of it, much as I must admire his insight, keenness, and amazing power with his pencil. My people idea is a better idea and will tell better.

Davis is perpetually hammering at us to describe, to make a theory of origin, to deduce all imaginable consequences of this theory and then to compare these consequences with the facts; also to draw and I think we are making progress.

To finish the work that he urges, I have to spend one week in field work and one in writing up report which I will then send to him. We have to see pene plains everywhere! After that Gregory and I who are to work together, will spend a week or two out here seeing some of the more human interest . . . But the slopes of the Spanish peaks are well watered and wooded and the form studies that W. M. Davis desires us to make are illustrated there too. I have talked with him about my work etc. I think he has absolutely no interest in "Human" geography, though he tries to speak of it with respect. He thinks I ought to write an elementary book with man first not merely because it would pay, but it would be he says, a good thing to do. He says in connection with the scholarships for a study by Harvard men out of the country that he would like to see me attempting the Mexican plateau some winter, if I could get away. Probably a good report on the lines he has set out for us will be as helpful as anything I can do. We have learned a great deal from Professor Davis though not things in my own school line.

The trip was rewarding to Jefferson who wrote, "I believe I have the 'recent' history of the mountains clear . . ." The open air hiking was beneficial and he was excited to find a splendid specimen of a dead mountain sheep, whose skull and horns he won by petitioning the local authorities for its retention.

The following year, 1911, Jefferson took a boat to Dublin, Ireland, and thence journeyed for 66 days, June 1-August 5, through Ireland, England, Wales, France, Switzerland, into Italy in company with a selected group of geographers under the leadership of W. M. Davis. Jefferson and W. M. Davis were the only Americans present. The ex-
cursion has variously passed under titles as “The Dublin-Rome Excursion” or “Liverpool-Rome Excursion.” W. M. Davis referred to the journey as “a Geographical Pilgrimage from Ireland to Italy,”25 and explained his reference to pilgrims and pilgrimage in the opening paragraph of his article. . . . “It took the name of ‘Pilgrimage’ because we visited many localities made famous in the history of physical geography by the work of masters in an earlier generation.” Although the pilgrims totalled 32 in number and were drawn from fourteen different countries, rarely did the party number more than a dozen at any one time. Geographers usually with a fund of knowledge concerning the local area would join the excursion at prearranged locations and accompany the caravan for a few days before departing. Much of the journey was undertaken on foot. It was perhaps the jolliest of the field trips Jefferson was ever to experience. Waldbauer told funny stories never ceasing, Davis made famous the thing called “the skiou,”26 Vacher coached Jefferson on the word “thingemebob,” and Jefferson contributed to the fun—“‘D’ou est Monsieur Briquet!’, I asked, ‘Il est de Douay’, they answer laughing.”27 Jefferson’s observations as recorded in his diary were particularly acute and indicate personal excitement. Later in life Jefferson frequently made mention of this trip in his correspondence with memories of satisfaction and enjoyment. Perhaps his enjoyment stemmed from his appreciation of the French regionalists who knew their “pays” with such intimacy. He was a great admirer of Paul Vidal de la Blache and the school of geographers that gathered around him. The 23 volume Géographie Universelle was to become one of his most prized possessions in later years. Jefferson maintained daily notes totaling approximately 20,000 words, which have been preserved,28 and took over 600 photographs during this field trip. He later made frequent use of slides made from them in his Europe class and reproduced some of these photographs in his text Man in Europe. The field notes indicate the route followed, companions who joined or departed the group, members with whom Jefferson became closely acquainted, and above all what he saw. A comparison of Davis’ physiographic account already mentioned, and the humanistic account produced by Jefferson in his notes are indicative of their respective points of view. Later Jefferson explained this in a letter:29 “When I spent a few weeks in England in 1911, with Professor Davis and his party . . . Davis’ interests were wholly in the hills and valleys—inhuman I called them and I took three days off to look at English country life.”

Jefferson was sorry to learn that Jean Brunhes was not taking the trip. He had previously exchanged correspondence with Brunhes and had only recently published a review of the gold medal winning La
Jefferson was particularly interested in Brunhes' "facts of unproductive occupation of the soil—houses and roads". During the trip Jefferson devoted much of his attention to house plan and building materials. Much of his diary, and a large number of the photographs he took, were of houses—and frequently of house roofs. Later that year he presented a paper before the Association of American Geographers at Washington, D.C., entitled "Houses and House Materials in West Europe." Much of the paper was taken directly from his diary notes. The abstract was published in the *Annals of the Association of American Geographers.*

The house, especially of the poor man, is made of the materials nearest at hand: if among abundant forest, of wood; where the forest is lacking, of stone or brick. Roofs are especially sensitive to the influence of local building materials, from their exposure to the weather and consequent need of repairs. Where some fissile rock abounds, they are of slate like slabs; where the rock is claying, of tiles; in the forest, of shingles; the poorest house often having thatch in any country where neither shingles nor slates are to be had.

Inheritance, however, is also to be reckoned with.

It was on this trip that Jefferson developed a particularly close friendship with George Chisholm (University of Edinburgh), J. Cvijic (University of Belgrade), Albert Demangeon (University of Lille), Pierre Denis and Lucien Gallois (University of Paris), Alfred Ruhl (University of Marburg), and Naomasa Yamasaki (University of Tokyo). Many letters, photographs, and publications were later exchanged as a result of these friendships.

The excursion, which assumed the form of a travelling international seminar was scheduled to terminate in Rome, venue of the 1911 International Geographical Congress. When the party reached Luzerne on September 27, the King of Italy sent a message indicating the Congress had been postponed. Italy was at war with Turkey. Both Jefferson and Davis travelled as far as Milan in order to view the North Italian plain, although officially the trip disbanded at Lugano. Jefferson returned via Paris to Brittany where he took a boat for the United States. Davis remained in Paris as a visiting professor from Harvard, from which vantage point he could organize European membership to the 1912 American Geographical Society Transcontinental Excursion.

In 1912 for the third consecutive summer, Jefferson entered the field under the guidance of Davis. The Excursion (which celebrated the 60th anniversary of the American Geographical Society and the occupation by the Society of a new building), lasted 57 days, covered over 13,000
miles, and brought into daily contact 43 European geographers representing 14 countries and approximately 70 American geographers who joined and departed the Excursion, dependent upon their availability. The history of this undertaking has been well recorded in the *Memorial Volume of the Transcontinental Excursion*, the first book published by the American Geographical Society. Davis appointed Jefferson First Marshal of the Excursion. Jefferson spoke several languages, could be relied upon to see the Excursion to a close, and was one of the people with whom Davis could work well. This was the last time that Davis and Jefferson were to share company on an extended field excursion; they had shared company in 1910 (Colorado), 1911 (Western Europe), and 1912 (Transcontinental Excursion). The confrontation provided by Davis' physiographic interests and abilities in the field were an important part of Jefferson's geographic education. Jefferson recognized this when he elected W. M. Davis his intellectual father. R. Dodge and I. Bowman were appointed Second and Third Excursion Marshal respectively. Jefferson reported his duties were minimal, amounting to nominal leadership of the Excursion for one day in Yellowstone National Park when W. M. Davis was resting. During the Excursion Jefferson wrote frequently to his wife. Thirty-three of these letters have been preserved and afford personal insights of the Excursion experienced by him. He reported the splendor of Pullman accommodation, described the lavish hospitality provided by people and institutions en route, detailed many of the sights seen that escaped the itinerary, mentioned the number of his own students of previous years who greeted him, and tended to confirm the suspicion that in undertaking so much travel, fatigue impaired the value of so many sights seen in so short a time. But he did take more than a thousand photographs which were to become the basis of his U.S. slide collection, and he did develop numerous friendships. He became well acquainted with some of the French geographers whom he had not met in 1911. Included were Baulig, E. de Margerie, E. de Martonne, and Herbette. He became well acquainted also with Emile Chaix (University of Geneva), Gunnar Andersson (University of Stockholm), Eduard Bruckner (University of Vienna), Alan Ogilvie (University of Oxford). He renewed friendships with Demangeon, Gallois, Vacher, Chisholm, Nussbaum, and Ruhl. Jefferson was not swift to make a person's acquaintance, and, without the close proximity fostered by the 1911 and 1912 Excursions, it is certain that he would not have come to know many of the geographers of these trips. En route many of the geographers gave informal addresses to the group, usually in the evening hours. Sometimes discussions of the most lively sort would ensue. Occasionally Jefferson would make reference to
these informal discussions, or to the foreign geographers, in letters to his wife:35

. . . meeting with Professor Davis now in Lounge—later. A very lively discussion it was that ended in Dr. Niermeyer telling Davis that he was no geographer but a geomorphologist.

The lobby, the dining room, and the lounge, which must have room and chairs for hundreds of people are all furnished in veneer of red birch which seems to cover acres of pseudo-square timbers, for the scheme of architecture is endless combinations of straight squared beams, even to the length of conventionalized cobwebs of straight squared rods, set with lights for transoms above dining room windows. All this is a direct response to two geographic factors; the prosperity and culture stand of the eastern humid United States and the color splendor of the young canon of the yellowstone. That seems to me geography. Davis gave a talk last night on the physical features of the Park and then another on “method of geographic description.” As usual he spoke only of physical geography. He is too fair to deny this when accused of it and admits that he is really a physical geographer, but when Dr. Niermeyer of Utrecht rose and called attention to the point, everyone got excited and seemed to feel that Niermeyer was out of order. It is said that Niermeyer’s contribution to geography is an admirable revision of an old work on Java where he lived for six months. I get the impression that he was longer than six months there from the way he speaks of his knowledge of the island. They say he contributed admirable description of scenery and made the work a son of Baedeker. He is called an anthropologist. It is odd how little open to new impressions our friends are, even to new points of view; very likely they feel the same way about me! Ruskin in Modern Painters has two chapters on “Mountain Splendor” and “The Mountain Gloom” and I made reference to the theme he then develops that man may lead a life of mean and sordid range of thought and feeling in the presence of the scenery that would ordinarily be called most inspiring. The traditional view is, of course, the opposite one, beauty of environment is supposed to have inspired Greek appreciation of scenery in general, despite the fact that five centuries of the same environment have not seemed to make any impression on the Turks.

Finally after much useless discussion I bethought me to ask them the name of some Spanish “master” (offhand of course), then a Dutch, a French, an Italian and then, wickedly, a Swiss “master,” who should have been inspired by the most beautiful scenery in Europe! Then I had the prudence to change the subject . . . The geographic point of view still has much way to make. I am pleased to have been
useful to our European friends quite beyond my habits and many of them seem grateful.

And in another letter to his wife:

... We have curious lights on foreign science. Have I mentioned De Margerie? His knowledge of American geology simply amazing for breadth and depth. Not all are like him. Cholnoky calls glacial striae marks of wind blown sand. Merzbacher does not believe Rocky Mountains wind effected and so on . . .

Jefferson delivered formal unpublished addresses to the gathering at Detroit and Chattanooga and was to have made a third presentation by popular request at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, but time crowded him out of the program. His address entitled, “Geographic Instruction in America,” later published in The Proceedings of the Philosophical Society of the University of Virginia, attracted the attention of a Mr. Philander Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, who rode to Washington with Jefferson and tried to persuade the latter he should write “a 100 page booklet on geography teaching in normal schools.”

Perhaps Jefferson did not wander from the train as much as he would have liked owing in part to a strict itinerary and in part to a nasty fall he incurred on the steps of the Agricultural College, Madison, Wisconsin on August 28. Dr. Churchill, the Excursion physician, who called Davis “Uncle Will,” examined and then bandaged Jefferson who soon recovered from the mishap. Almost certainly Jefferson would have preferred to have travelled fewer miles by train and more on foot, but he was totally agreed that the Excursion was a major success. Throughout the trip Jefferson shared sleeping quarters with his one-time student, Isaiah Bowman. The closeness encouraged Bowman to reveal to Jefferson that he, and some geographer friends, would like to see him write to President Lowell of Harvard and offer geography in the wake of the recently retired Davis. Relating this matter to his wife in a letter written while on the trip, Jefferson wrote . . . “Friends East of the Alleghenies are plotting to make Ypsilanti the home of the President of the Association of American Geographers as a step.” Jefferson had been appointed second vice president in 1910, but it was not until 1916 that he was appointed president. The transfer from Ypsilanti to Cambridge did not materialize. Wallace Atwood succeeded to the position occupied by Davis. Jefferson’s wife was anxious to return to the East and especially to Boston, but Jefferson was not nearly so concerned to depart Ypsilanti. He frequently wrote that he was accomplishing much with his Normal College students and was well satisfied where he was. Theodora died the following year. This, coupled with the advent of the First
World War, interrupted Jefferson's habit of summer field work.

Jefferson was called out of field work retirement in 1918 by the American Geographical Society to make a study of colonization in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile. This has been written of elsewhere; suffice it to say that Jefferson had all the freedoms a worker in the field could desire, and concomitantly he satisfied his own inclinations and appetites . . . and his studies could be human!

Two years later, in August 1920, Jefferson put his knowledge of river behavior to good use in the field when lawyers Davis, Costen, and Harrison representing Lee Wilson and other riparian owners in Southern Mississippi County, Arkansas, and on the advice of Isaiah Bowman employed Jefferson at $50 per day to demonstrate to the Government in court that the Golden Lake was in fact an oxbow lake. The suit for the old bed of Golden Lake had been pending in court for several months, as had other "sunken land" cases in the same country. The essential question involved in all of the sunken land cases of Mississippi County (and there had been several) had been a controversy of fact as to whether the disputed lands were really part of old lakes or merely lowlands. If it could be proved that the lands were not a part of the original lake beds, title would rest in the Government. Otherwise the disputed territory was the property of riparian owners in proportion to their interest in the meandering line of the lake. The court was apparently satisfied with Jefferson's testimony during an eight-hour examination in March, 1921, and decided to restore 4,000 acres of valuable land to the riparian owners.

The raising of a family by Clara, his second wife, necessarily curtailed further field trips. It was not until the Christmas vacation of 1926, when he was advanced money by D. C. Heath Company against a series of high school geographies, that he took a trip to make photographs for his texts. In the later part of December he travelled through Havana, Panama, and Jamaica sketching, taking photographs and doubtless taking notes, but the latter are not available. It was this journey to Panama which later provided Jefferson with a lecture in the Haas series which he gave at Northwestern University in 1940. Otherwise very little data exists on the journey which was undertaken in strict secrecy, a condition imposed by D. C. Heath Company. The Panama excursion was completed at the age of 63, and he was to make only one more extended field trip in his life . . . his long cherished dream of a stay in Iberia.

Jefferson wrote to Isaiah Bowman in September 1928 asking if the American Geographical Society would be able to finance a summer field trip for him in Iberia, the results either in the form of articles or a
book, to be given to the American Geographical Society for publication either in the *Geographical Review* or in the Research Series.

The result planned is a little book—or several Review Articles, ready to print when I go aboard steamer facing west! Title, “Why Portugal?” meaning why not one Iberia or four—Gallegos, Castilians, Catalans, and Portuguese?

The rather novel element in my plan is a three week sojourn in some coolish Portuguese coast town writing up the results, followed by a ten day moving toward Cherbourg or Southampton, picking up some dropped threads that may have developed. 42

Jefferson wished to travel the valley of the Tagus in Spain and Portugal, from its sources to the sea, with particular attention to the varying reaction of men to the arid Spanish and humid Portuguese climate. 43 Bowman encouraged Jefferson to proceed with the plan of Iberian field work in the summer of 1929 and offered to provide $250 as an advance payment for resultant articles, even though this practice had not previously been adopted by the American Geographical Society. 44 Unfortunately, Jefferson was taken ill in the spring of 1929 and was obliged to postpone his trip. The matter of the Iberian field work persisted with Jefferson, who mentioned it frequently in his correspondence to an interested Bowman. He seriously entertained the idea of the trip in 1930, 1931, and again in 1932, but the stringency of the depression years, a reduction in faculty salaries, and a governor's threat to close the Normal School discouraged his expenditure of money on such a venture. Eventually in 1935, armed with a supply of oranges enough for two a day on board boat, Jefferson, accompanied by his daughter, Phoebe, left New York for Antwerp. Once on the European continent the couple travelled through Paris, Bordeaux via the Ebro, to Madrid, and thence using the Tagus Valley, to Lisbon, making stops at Miranda de Ebro, Logrono, Zaragoza, Guadalajara, Madrid, Abrantes, Santarem, and Lisbon. The return journey was more swiftly accomplished also via Madrid and Paris to New York. The journeying delighted Jefferson who wrote of his joy to J. K. Wright: 45

My summer in Iberia included five full days in Portugal. Portugal is a very lovely land! They are a people who have a rare knack of adorning their landscape. I like the Spaniards better, but Castile is not lovely at all, only the people very likeable. I like their cool interiors in summer, the tremendous breeziness of their houses and cafes. I had a great time and now must go again. I wondered in planning if I was not too old for a trip overseas, now I am planning on going again in 1938, and try mule-backs to places I didn’t reach! 450 pictures!

P.S. I shall bring a Tagus paper to St. Louis.
Notes in a notebook, many photographs and sketches, and an ambition accomplished were the results. At the 1935 meeting of the Association of American Geographers in St. Louis Jefferson spoke on, "Motors as Criteria of Wealth in Europe, 1934," a presentation which contrasted the poverty of Iberia with the superior wealth of other European nations. The following year, 1936, Jefferson delivered more of his Iberia findings at the Syracuse meeting of the Association, "Is the Iberian Plateau a Plain of Marine Denudation?" A further Iberia talk at the Normal School founded a campus geography club.