



Collection Information:

Folder: Correspondence and Miscellaneous Papers, November 1905-November 1906, August 19, 1908.

Collection: Volk, Douglas. Second Minnesota Regiment at Mission Ridge Papers.

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E. E. CORLISS,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

ROOMS 1 AND 2, PICKIT BLOCK,

FERGUS FALLS, MINN.

Nov. 23. 1905.

Douglass Volk Esq,
St Paul Minn.

Dear Sir:

Your telegram ,dated Chattanooga Tenn, Nov. 20. just received
It is imposible for me to come to St Paul on friday as I am busy in a
Term of Court here and cannot get away: While I should be very much pleas
ed to meet you with your sketches &c. I could only,if present leave the
whole matter to Genl.Bishop and th e other members who was in that battle
I think Gen. Bishop understands my idea,that a view of the field over
which the Reg. had to go over is very desirable as Missinary Ridge is in
itself historical.

I am anxious for a good painting for this Reg.but will leave it
with Gen.Bishop to deside what shall be done;What satisfies him will sat
isfy me.

I shall send this to Gen.Bishop who I will ask to hand it to you
as I know you will call on him.

Sincerely Yours.

E. E. Corliss

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF,
WASHINGTON.

November 25, 1905.

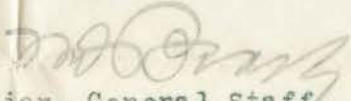
Mr. D. Volk,
260 Suydam Avenue,
Jersey City, N. J.

Sir:

Referring to your request for certain photographic prints from the Brady collection of negatives, I have the honor to inform you that it has been found impossible up to this time to prepare the prints in question by reason of the fact that most of them required new negatives to be made.

If you will send to this office the European address where a letter will reach you, it will give me pleasure to have the prints prepared as soon as practicable and forwarded to you.

Very respectfully,


Major, General Staff,
Chief 2nd (Mil. Inf.) Division.

624 St. Peter St.

St Paul. Minn Nov 27. 1905

My dear Mr Volk.

Your favor of yesterday reached me at noon today, and I will endeavor to comply with your request forthwith.



1st I wore a Cap. with Infantry Officers insignia on front. As near as I recall it. it consisted of crossed muskets in a square. both border & muskets worked with gold thread.

2 - Blouse - 1 row of buttons. (Dr Blue cloth)

3 Light blue trousers.

4. Rubber blanket - rolled - hung over left shoulder. & Canteen hung over right shoulder.

5 Sword - Scabbard black leather. with gilt trimmings

The Sergeants wore Dr Blue Blouse. light Blue trousers, Chevrons . Corporals 
J.E. 2 & 3 stripes Hats, rolled Blanket. & Canteen over left shoulder. Haversack hung over right shoulder. The right shoulder was kept free

from obstructions to receive the butt of the gun stock in taking aim. Bayonet scabbard attached to waist belt, hung on left side.

I think it safe to show the Commissioned Officers wearing Caps. But as Gen Bishop told you he wore a hat - he should be ~~so~~ represented.

First Sergeants, of whom at least two should be represented, wore a triple A with a diamond inside the bars.

1st Lieut S. S. Trimble. Killed, fell with pistol in one hand - sword in the other. He was killed by a pistol ball, so I was informed at that date, and that the bullet hole in head was a very small one. When our men leaped over the upper works - the Confederates - not over twenty paces distant - received us with a volley - and seven of my Company were hit. A Battery Sergeant (rebel) with a broken thigh lay near his gun, and a rebel Officer lay twenty paces back. I do not recall seeing any rebel flags until we reached a point 150 yards down the ~~east~~ East Slope, where we were checked

by a solid line of Infantry. But that line cannot be shown by reason of trees on the slope. To the north and just beyond DeLong's Point there also was a line in conflict with Phelps' Brigade.

By way of suggestion. First Sergeant A. H. Reed lost his left arm after crossing the works on the Crest. He still lives - a large broad shouldered man; Sandy in complexion, moustache and hair, and I suggest that such a man be shown in the picture. I desire to do him justice, because he was a good Soldier, and at that time in Command of his Company, and by showing a first-Sergeant wounded, he and his friends will be placated, This was the Color Company.

Use these suggestions if deemed good. Gen B and myself will be held largely responsible for certain facts omitted. And we can explain some facts to the satisfaction of our comrades, but could not satisfy as to omissions of such cases as that of Sergeant's Reed & the Color Bearer Jacobus, wounded.

Sincerely Yours J. C. Donahower.
I will answer any questions you may find necessary to ask.

After 10 days, return to

J. C. Donahue
1624 St Peter St

SAINT PAUL, MINN.



C/o Mr Douglas Volk,
White Star Line S.S. Republic,
New York
N.Y.

St Paul Minn 11-27 05

Mr Douglas Volk
New York

Dear Sir

Yours from Chicago received and
haste to answer. I think your suggestion very good.
I stopped several times going up the ridge and gave
the wounded boys water. I mentioned one to you when
we met in St Paul. Any other information I can give
you will be cheerfully done.

Yours Very Respt

W Bircher

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Douglas Volk
Care Steamship Republic
White Star Line
New York City
N.Y.

CASS GILBERT,
ARCHITECT,

Minn. Capitol.

11 EAST 24TH STREET,
NEW YORK.

ENDICOTT BLDG.,
ST. PAUL.

NEW YORK, June 25, 1906.

Mr. Douglas Volk,
Center Lovell, Maine.

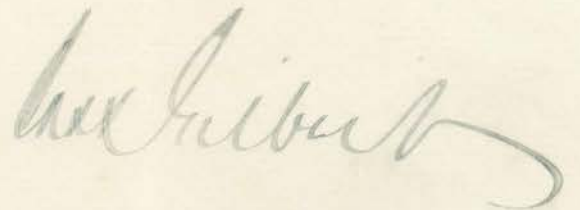
My dear Mr. Volk:-

I have just seen Mr. Howard Pyle's picture of the Battle of Nashville, for the Minnesota Capitol, and am very much impressed with it. I am anticipating great results from this series of battle pictures and I have suggested to Mr. Pyle that he should join you, Mr. Millet and Mr. Zogbaum in exhibiting the four pictures together in New York sometime in October,- preferably the earlier part of October. I have written Mr. Seabury recommending this line of action, and in order that the artists shall be at no inconvenience, that payment of all but the final 10% should be made as soon as the pictures are completed, the balance being held only until they are set in place. This, by the way, would also permit your making some joint arrangement to have the pictures placed on the wall, if you so desire, by some competent man at probably less expense than would be the case if you had them done separately. If you approve this suggestion and are willing to exhibit, I should be glad to have you let me know, and arrange among yourselves as to how and when the exhibition should be held. Of course, I cannot undertake the details of such an exhibition, but I presume it could be done very much the same as was done by the others who have exhibited their works for the Capitol.

I remain

Yours very truly,

G-A.



624 St Peter Street

St Paul. Minn July 28, 1906

My dear Mr Volk.

Your favor dated July 26th is at hand. In it you refer to photographs of Sergeants Mullen and Shuman, which you say were sent to you by me. Since your last visit to St Paul, I did send you three photographs-- those of
1st Lieut S. G. Trimble. Killed on the Bridge.
1st Sergeant A. H. Reed
Corporal John J. Mullen, color bearer.
I have no recollection of sending you Geo. W. Shuman's photo. But I incline to the belief, that because Shuman wore side whiskers & a moustach as I also did,

and also because Genl Bishop and others who saw your sketch here, and who declared what you said was my picture, they believed to be Shumanus, you are led ~~into~~ to say I sent you the latter photo.

My picture in your sketch is also an excellent one of Shuman, and you will remember that I requested, that in my face the side whiskers should be painted showing less depth, that is to say, should not cover as much of the face on the jaw bone. Shuman was a Sergeant in the battle of Missionary Ridge - and later became a Captain. His side whiskers were heavier and broader on the cheek than mine, and I trust you will show him up in the picture.

A. H Reed's picture as sent you is a good one - and you proposed placing his face on

the man on the left end of the picture in the kneeling position.

However, my recollection is, that on the photographs I sent you, I wrote the name of the persons they represented, and you will be safe in consulting the photo's.

Capt. Muller did wear chin whiskers, and I think also a mustach at that date.

Mr R. A. Lampher. 1st Sergeant of Co. D. has concluded to submit to you the enclosed photograph. It was taken ten years after close of the war. but is true of him as he looked in 1864, with the exception of the whiskers near the ear. You asked him for his photograph at the time he called on you with General Bishop. but as he did not have one showing the uniform, he did not give you one. Please put his face and 1st Sergeants chevrons ~~one~~ one of your unnamed men in the picture. - height 5'7. Brown hair. black hat. No other photo's will be sent. Glad to serve you in any way and at any time. Respectfully J. C. Donahower.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

July 30th 1906

Mr. Douglas Volk

Center Lovell, Maine.

My dear Sir,

Your favor of 26th is duly received & I note your request for the Uniform Coat. The one I now have and which you saw is not the one worn or which as Lieut Colonel I could have worn at Missionary Ridge. It is a Brig. General's Coat with a star in the shoulder straps - velvet collar & cuffs and with eight buttons (in pairs) on each side of the breast front. The proper coat would have a silver maple leaf in each end of each shoulder strap. seven buttons spaced equi distant in a row on each side of the breast front and collar & cuffs of same cloth as the body of the Coat. So I don't think this would be of any service to you. If it would - I would gladly send it.

I am glad to know that you are making good progress with the picture and do not doubt that it will prove satisfactory. Let me however renew my protest (as I am yet alive) against making my figure too

conspicuous in the picture.

I recognize your suggestion that there must be some leading figure and I suppose mine should probably be the one - but I don't it to appear unduly prominent. With this I leave it all to you.

My children are now at Madeline Island Lake Superior (near Bayfield) and my wife & I will join them there next Saturday 4th for a four week stay. My annual "Hay fever" will be due August 8th and the doctor says that if I go there two weeks before and stay until two weeks after that date, I may escape it altogether, which at my time of life would be very desirable.

My address for August will be "Lapointe, Madeline Island, Wis." and I shall be glad to have a note from you there.

Mr Bishop joins me in best wishes to you -

very truly yours

J. W. Bishop

CASS GILBERT,
ARCHITECT,

11 EAST 24TH STREET,
NEW YORK.

ENDICOTT BLDG.,
ST. PAUL.

MINNESOTA CAPITOL

NEW YORK, Sept. 5, 1906.

Mr. Douglas Volk,
Hewn Oak, Center Lovell,
Maine.

My dear Mr. Volk:

Your letter of July 3rd has reached me on my return from abroad and I am taking it up as soon as possible thereafter.

I understand that it would be found impracticable to have the pictures for the Minnesota Capitol exhibited together, as I had suggested. Mr. Pyle has, I believe, already started West with this picture and I doubt if Mr. Millet's picture will be done. ^{in time} Mr. Zogbaum's picture is approaching completion, and I have told him that I understand it to be the wish of the Commission that it shall be placed as soon as practicable.

The Commission, I believe, is now very anxious to clean up everything in connection with this work, and I therefore urge you to complete the picture as soon as you can and to place it in the building in completed form so as to get the whole matter through.

I am sure the picture will be a success, and with kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

G/M




624 St Peter St

St Paul Minn Sept 6/66

My dear Mr Volk.

The Art Store referred to
in your favor of Sept 3^d is that of
W. J. Bowers

347. Kabasha St. St Paul.

I do not find a cap among my
souvenirs of the rebellion, and do not
know of one owned by my friends.
If the cap is required as a head dressing
for the writer, I suggest that you substitute
a black hat, with a gilt cord, with the
Crown bent in somewhat like this, . But
in the artistic drawing, the hat is too large or
rather too high in the crown compared to the
the length of the face.

I am glad to hear that you are getting
the picture well along. But I assume from
what you say, that the hot weather does
not keep away from your canvas. The

have had unusually hot weather during July and August, and while our days are quite warm, ^{our} nights are comfortably cool, and sleep is possible.

General Bishop was compelled to seek the more favorable climate found north of Duluth to escape an attack of Malarial fever. I hope you enjoying a pleasant time while at Bent's Lovell, and that we will have the pleasure of seeing you at St Paul before cold weather comes and fur top coats are in season.

Sincerely Yours
J. C. Donahower.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Oct 18th 1906

Mr Douglas Volk
Center Lovell - Maine
Dear Sir.

Your favor of 14th ult. was duly received & I have just seen yours of later date to Mr. Seabury. so we expect you to arrive here with the picture about Nov. 1st

I think it important that you should not be later than that date.

Mr. Dyle's picture has already been hung on the North wall of the room and we have expected the Missionary Ridge picture to occupy the remaining space on the North wall - I am anxious that another picture shall not arrive first and claim the choice of the three remaining places, which might throw us on the South wall where the light is not so good as you know.

Mr. Seabury says they will give you a suitable room at the Capitol in which to finish your picture and I presume has written or will write you to that effect. So if you can work as well here as elsewhere it would be well to arrive as early as maybe,

and claim the space you want and then
finish the picture accordingly.
I understand that Mr. Millet is about
arriving in New York from Europe now &
propose to do some work there. I have
heard nothing from or of Mr. Zogbaum.
I trust you are in good health and hope
to greet you here soon.

Very truly Yours
A. R. Bishop

GOVERNOR JOHN A. JOHNSON.
(EX OFFICIO) PRESIDENT.

CHANNING SEABURY,
VICE PRES.

E. E. CORLISS,
JOHN DE LAITRE,
G. A. DU TOIT,
C. H. GRAVES,
H. W. LAMBERTON,
EDGAR WEAVER,

COMMISSIONERS.
FRANK E. HANSON,
SECRETARY.



NEW STATE CAPITOL

Board of STATE CAPITOL Commissioners.

St. Paul, Minn. Oct. 19/1906. 190

Mr. Douglas Volk,
Centre Lovell, Me.

Dear Sir:-

I duly received yours of the 14th inst., and am glad to know that you are progressing so well with the Battle picture.

Mr. Howard Pyle came out here the early part of this month, and brought his completed "Battle of Nashville" picture with him; it was promptly placed on the wall, and is now permanently in place. He did nothing to it after it came, except to touch it up a trifle, here and there, after it was placed on the wall, during one forenoon.

Replying to your inquiry, would say that there will be no trouble in giving you space somewhere in the building, for such work as you desire to put on your picture. I think you can have the same room you used before, viz:- the one assigned to the Art Society, as they are inactive at present and do not need it. We will take care of you, however, in the event that they should require this room by the time you get here.

Yours truly,

Channing Seabury

From
BOARD OF STATE CAPITOL COMMISSIONERS,
St. Paul, Minn.



Mr. Douglas Volk,

Centre Lovell,

Me.

Minn. Capitol.

**CASS GILBERT,
ARCHITECT,**

11 EAST 24TH STREET,
NEW YORK.

ENDICOTT BLDG.,
ST. PAUL.

NEW YORK, Nov. 9, 1906.

Mr. Douglas Volk,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

In view of the fact that you are now placing your picture, "Battle of Mission Ridge" in the Minnesota Capitol, I have drawn certificate for \$3000.00, the third payment due you on your contract, and will forward it to the Board of Capitol Commissioners for action at their meeting next Tuesday. The contract requires that the picture shall be in place before the third payment becomes due and payable, and in case you have not entirely completed the setting of it, the Commission may decide to pass the voucher and hold it until the technical requirement of the contract is complied with.

Yours very truly,

A.



GILBERT,
CHITECT,
ST 24TH STREET,
NEW YORK.



Mr. Douglas Volk,

St. Paul,

Minn.

Minnesota Club
Hotel Frederick

GOVERNOR S. R. VAN SANT,
(EX OFFICIO) PRESIDENT.

CHANNING SEABURY,
VICE PRES.

E. E. CORLISS,
JOHN DE LAITRE,
G. A. DU TOIT,
G. H. GRAVES,
H. W. LAMBERTON,
EDGAR WEAVER,

COMMISSIONERS
FRANK E. HANSON,
SECRETARY.



Board of

STATE CAPITOL Commissioners.

St. Paul, Minn. August 19th 1904

Mr. Douglas Voel

Center Lovell. Oxford C. Me.

Dear Sir:

Yours of August 15th received enclosing your
voucher \$450⁰⁰, signed. I have you herein State
Auditor warrant No 93353. on State Treasurer
\$450⁰⁰ your order. You can use this warrant
at your bank, or you can send it to a St. Paul
bank for collection, and they will send you Eastern
exchange. The eastern banks I understand charge
1/4 of 1% for collection, while the St. Paul banks
 seldom charge more than 1/10 -

Very Truly

Frank E. Hanson