

carpiato cihintku Dec 16th 1845
Tiskana putag mani

[June 22, 1835]

To all whom it may concern

The Rev. Doctor Thomas S. Williamson, & Alexander G. Huggins with their families - all Citizens of the United States having been authorized to enter the Indian Country, & having expressed a wish to locate a Missionary Establishment at Lac qui Parle on the River St. Peters.

The said Thomas S. Williamson and Alexander G. Huggins together with their families are hereby permitted to locate at said Lac qui Parle for the sole purposes aforesaid, and to act in strict conformity with all the laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian Tribes which now are or hereafter may be made, and during their residence in the Indian Country - and are subject to the orders of the Department - remaining during the pleasure of the President of the United States.

Given at the Office of Indian
Agency at St. Peters this 22^d day
of June 1835

L. A. Taliaferro
Indian Agent
at St. Peters

178049 17 May 1909
J. S. Hallett

Rev. Thos. S. Williamson
I Amos G. Huggins
Fort Melling -

grass quite different from upland prairie and some times the water was a foot deep Some of those who were with us carried the Children and I carried Lydia ^[his wife, Lydia Pettijohn Huggins] 2 or 3 times for several Rods where there was water Lydia thinks it is two Miles instead of one we arrived at the place Some time before noon and found those who had went by land in good health The trader who trades here was not at home but we had a dinner prepared for us at his house with M^r Renville We [had] fat Hog Unleavened Bread and butter and Coffee The Knives and forks were placed Round the Pork and plates was set at the head of the table and after Gods blessing was asked by D^r ^[Williamson] W. Mr Renville Cut the Meat and started it Round The Coffee was filled out by a French man brother in law to the Lady that Came with us Soon after dinner the Boat came and we got our thing[s] hauled up stretched our tent made tea for supper although there were a number of Cows Close Round the tent

2nd Next morning we had Coffee and got Milk to put in it and a little which we took with us for dinner We started by land in Company with 6 one Horse Carts One One Horse Waggon and we have a two Horse waggon One half indian on Horse Two of M^r Rs sons one Married one & one small one; and some 15 or 20 Indians on foot Started about 12 O C leaving a number of things behind again

July 13th 1835 Lacquiparl We arrived here on the ninth,
more than three months after we left Ripley We arrived at Fort
Snelling on the 16 of May and left it on the 23 of June You
would like to know our Reasons for comeing so far. About a
week after we got to fort Snelling ^[Jedediah D.] Mr/Stevens and his family
got there we had selected Lake Calhoun as the place for us
and I had began to cut house logs and had sowed some Oats at
the Fort and had some garden &c After Mr Stevens Came we were
led to Consider where would be the best place [for] him and
us to Labor and it appeared to us all that there was no suit-
able place for a station near the Fort but Lake Calhoun and
as there was two young men ^[the Pond brothers] at Lake Calhoun Already Teaching
the Indians to farm it was thought I might not be needed so
much there as some where else and while we were considering
what was best to do M^r ^[Joseph]/Renville an Indian Trader who is him-
self pretty deep in the Indian Blood He is a great man has
Cattle & sheep and Oxen and Horses and Carts This Man M^r
Renville Came down to Fort Snelling trading with furs. For
pork and flour and Blankets and goods This man has been want-
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best for us to go with M^r Renville and for M^r Stevens to go to
Lake Calhoun And as there was a number of pious people at
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3335 26 Jan. 30 Dorothy H. Huggins 9

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Lac Lau Parle July 14th 1838

Dear Friend

Your letter of May 30th came to hand yesterday. Doctor W. wishes me to answer some of your questions. When your friends ask you what you are going to do tell them you wish to obey the command of the Saviour "Go ye into all the world & preach the gospel to every creature." And that you are willing to grub or to be a hewer of wood a drawer of water or anything so that the gospel may be preached to those who are dying in ignorance of that only name given under heaven whereby they can be saved. I will try to tell you in some part of this sheet some of the things which you will have to do or which I think will be necessary to be done by somebody. As to how you will live I hope if you come we will receive you as a brother and not as a slave. We have enough to eat and to drink when we are at home and we trust the Lord will provide for us in time to come and for you too. We have already house room enough for you & a wife too if you wish to fetch one. And if you get a good wife from the Lord she might be very useful here too. It might be well to fetch an axe a scythe and a sickle. And if you fetch a companion to fetch two or three chairs. As for furniture I think we can make that which will answer our purpose cheaper than to fetch it so far. I think it is not necessary for you to fetch a stove. Feathers for a bed can be had in this country from the wild geese & ducks I suppose cheaper than they could be bought in that country. And it we have bed cloathes enough to do us all & two or three more for a year or two to come. However it might be well for you to bring a bed tick and a few feathers. would not be he a blanket or two might be of some use to you. ing If I were coming I would be careful to fetch heavy articles. Bringing on our supply is a hard job for somebody every year. I got back from it this year he has just six weeks and then did not go up. port Snelling has just brought

object for which we came here and if you come here to
assist us we suppose our right to share with you whatever
we may have will be just as good as it would be to employ
any part of it in hiring assistance or in purchasing any
thing which we may need for ourselves. If you come you
suppose the good people of Red Oak will send you such things
as you will need and that you will do labour enough to pay for
your keeping. Your letter would have been more interesting if you
had told us more about those people especially your rela-
tives. Lowry Rankin has given us no intimation of an inten-
tion of coming here & so we suppose it is not true that he in-
tends coming. Sometime since I wrote a letter to J. C. Dodge
containing some sentences for you.

Dear Cousin I hope you will pray much to be guided
by the spirit of God in the way that you should go.
I have never for one moment been sorry that I left my
country and friends to come among the heathen. You
can know but little about how every thing will
appear in a heathen land till you come & so we hope to be
useful but the Lord only knows. Dr. Williamson & A. G. Higgins

For Sale
August 1st
35
Robert Hopkins
Ripley, O.
Brown Co.
Ohio

Monday LacquiParle September 16th 1839

Dear Brother & Sister

Yesterday evening we had our hearts cheered by receiving a letter from you. It was the first I had heard from any of my friends since I left. We are sorry to hear of your being sick but we hope "The joy prepared for suffering saints" "Will make amends for all" When I left home I understood you were very much opposed to my coming. I did not wonder at it I was surprised the opposition was not greater. When Mrs W. first mentioned to me about coming I thought it was not worth while to say anything about it but the more I thought about it, the more I wanted to come & I thought I would speak to my friends about it & They seemed to think more favorably of it than I expected. Then I committed the whole to my Heavenly Father & prayed that I might be led to do right & that if it was his will I should come. He would give me all that strength I needed.

I think we had as comfortable a journey as could ever be expected. But Sister you were mistaken when you supposed we were over the worst of the road at Galena. Its true the steam~~er~~ boat was delightful but coming up the St. Peters was very trying. the hot sun by day and the cold damp ground at night. It was some time after I came before I felt as if I was over it. but I am very well now. I am sure they needed some one here. Perhaps I am not the right one. but I hope I am. I have written to some one how I spend my time. I expect to assist Mrs Riggs in teaching the Dakota children before long. I am trying to learn the language but I make slow progress. I hope however that I shall learn faster presently. It seems that the wicked one is making vigorous efforts to keep his hold on this people. They feel that their religion is in danger. Last week seven men danced two days & two nights to the sun & moon without eating or sleeping. they had the bone of a buffalo head and a stone painted red with swans down on them and the bone of a swans wing for a whistle. Thus they kept dancing and blowing on the bone gazing

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just below the sun when the sun was down they would dance to the moon till it went down then they would rest but not eat nor sleep

Mr. Riggs & Doctor W. went to see them dance They were dancing away with as much earnestness as if they thought to gain some great reward one of them is husband to one of the church members & has talked with Mr R. & expressed a desire to know the will of God & said he prayed to him alone. & now to see them turn round & worship the sun & moon is very distressing. There have more attended meeting for some time than had since last winter Mr Renvill & family have attended regularly since Wee got home Some of the Indians say they would ~~attended regularly~~ come to meeting but they dont think they can quit their evil ways. they seem to think they ought to be very good before they come to meeting Mr. R. & Dr. W. preach day about & the day one preaches in english the other preaches in Dakota Mr R can pray in Dakota the Dr never does They both get Mr. Renville to pray once I am very much afraid they are not all Christians who have joined When I wrote Amzi I told him there was one man who wished to join. owing to some circumstances they have not conversed particularly with him yet. I do not know whether he ~~will~~ be recieved or not If we had reason to believe he is a Christian it would be heart cheering to have him join. he is husband to two of the church members Katharine and Rachel I do not know what they will say to him about having two wives if he joins the church They nearly all have more than one wife some of them four or five. one of the church members left her husband because he got so many wives & yet it is believed she loves him & feels him her husband but she thinks it better to live single than to live with a man who had five wives Some of the Indians are really good looking & seem to have pleasant dispositions. I think the Chief looks so much like Samuel Foreman if he was dressed like him you would think it was he or very much like him. The man who wrote you that letter is a very good looking man but it was he led out the war party & now he seems to be like the man spoken of in the New Testament "When the unclean spirit" &c. He really seems to have an uncommon share of evil about him

[Lydia Pettijohn Huggins]
Alexander Gilliland Huggins



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