

August

SATURDAY 12

1911

He had been to Washington and knew something of the vast difference in population. At first he thought to make an estimate of population by marking notches on a stick of all towns passed but gave it up saying they were just estimation. About a year before this a young Indian had told me that an uprising was planned around their council fires. I said, "No they can't be so foolish they are so few." "Yes, but the chipewags and Winnebagoes are going to help and there will be a great many." Still I never thought it would come.

August

SUNDAY 13

1911

Part Second

1921 It is several years since I wrote these pages.

Several reasons seemed to take up my mind.

Now I am 82 years old have time to spare but am quite feeble and the worst enemy of age seems to be to me very dim eyesight.

I can neither read or ~~see~~ but slowly and carefully I can write so it can be read. I had just come to the most ~~advantageous~~ part of my life. I am sorry I penned so many pages of unimportant trifles. If such sight as I still have continues I hope to hastily sketch some of the events of the terrible years ~~from~~ of 1862 and 63 (Nov 10th 1921)

x even just 3 days

August

MONDAY 14

1911

~~January 2nd 1922~~

The Indian uprising.

It was on the morning Aug.
18th 1862 the terrible ^{uprising} began

A man rode down the Fort-
Ridgeley road warning all
settlers that Indians at the Lower
Agency had begun killing
people early in the morning
As the Agency was almost 100
miles away we waited for more
news. Telephones were unknown.
Nor Railroad or Telegraphs for
many miles. Various reports
kept coming in all our
neighborhood still to stayed
at home. Most of the men of
fighting age had lately gone
to Fort Snelling to enlist for
the war. Many left small
children at home. Thomas
Petrijohn left his and one

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came after he left home.

Brother James Hadsclaw
left a feeble wife. Indeed
the whole country was almost
without its natural protectors.
One reason of the outbreak
no doubt.

Next day Brother Rufus
came in and got the only
old gun in the house. Mother
said "Oh my son you cant go"
"Dont say a word whether all
the men and boys are going.
The Indians are taking Weco
Udon." This was the way for
our family to make a scene
when under intense feeling.
There were only me there in
the room. I believe I sank into
a chair. Mother too was silent
and the dear boy only 16 walked
firmly away without farewell.

August

WEDNESDAY 16

1911

Next-day word came that
skulking Indians had been
seen not many miles away
and the whole neighborhood
moved into Traverse or St.
Peter. Word of our condition
was sent to Ft Snelling and
at once the 8th Minnesota
who were to have gone South
in a few days was ordered
to St. Peter. The women follo-
wed part ^{way} to meet them and
waited at them. They marched
on as grim as if going to battle.
I think I realized Army
discipline for the first time.
Thought they might have
let themselves a few minutes
to speak to wife and sister.
Father drove three miles out
to the farm to reach the cows
and bring in a chicken or two.

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THURSDAY 17

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we other provisions for the many
friends stopping with our
Minister. One day when
Mr and Mother had both
gone for the day Mother intending
to bake bread, word came
down from St. Peter that it
was now considered unsafe
even in Traverse and for us
all to come at once to St.
Peter. Even farther out of
St. Peter were to move into
the central part of town and
a cordon of soldiers would
be placed around enough to
repel quite a force of Indians.
We depended on Father's team
and he was gone. Oh how
I watched from upper windows
fearing they had been killed
by some lurking savage.
About three o'clock they came.

August

FRIDAY 18

1911

They had intended to stay until evening Mother to bake bread and dress chickens but soon after noon she became timid. She imagined she saw dark forms lurking in the dense brush around the house. She told Father to hurry up with the cows and kill the hens and she would take the dough to town and not stop to bake.

As they were driving past the fields of oats she ^{seemed} to see a dark bear pop up here and there and at once disappear. I think she ^{did} for Indians afterward told Julia Laprimbaire "We saw Mr. Higgins milking his cows but he was a good man. we

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would not kill him.

We were all in haste now to set off for St. Peter.

Sister Jane not well when we left home was now sick in bed hardly able to lift her hand. The wagon body was filled with hay and as many as could sat in the bottom part was carried out on a feather bed. I sat holding her head and shoulder in my lap. Those able to walk walked. The minister came behind with his buggy full as it would hold.

Arriving at St. Peter we found the big ware house thrown open for refugees. Wheat then was stored in bulk not in sacks as in California. The seasons wheat was still

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in the fields and the bins were empty. There were many wheel bins about 6 x 9 and our company were shown one of these. Jane was carried into one of these but where should the rest go. Our grocery store keeper who belonged to the same church came and said the church was opened for use. Mother Eliza and I and I went to the Church. Jane's Mother-in-law and her two daughters stayed with her. Next day the farmer got a leave of absence from his company and came to see what he could do for his sick wife. He found a large hall above a store and carried her there

August

MONDAY 21

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where for the next few days her two Mothers waited. When the two little girls Fattie and Kittie were taken by some kind lady and I never saw them for many days. All this time we were uncertain of the fate of Arnes and his family. Uncle Jones and family and our old Quilsein friends.

I remember nothing at all about what or where we ate except that one day I missed being with any one who had food and walked the street most fainting with hunger.

I have no idea where Father slept. I think he went out to the farm every day to bring in supplies. I have only one vivid remembrance of him

August

TUESDAY 22

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during all those days.
One morning early I went down to the ware house. There was now many fugitives from New Ulm some were cooking in the yard. Mother was in a retired spot preparing something to eat. Father was there and before we ate he opened the big Bible and very impressively read the 46 psalm "God is our refuge and strength a very present help in time of trouble."

Then he poured out his petitions to an all hearing God. Father was a very fearless man. Silently and usefully he went about his daily duties. We heard rumors that our Mission friends were making a circuitous journey toward

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WEDNESDAY 23

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St. Paul but the first definite news was from Uncle Jonas who struck across country and came to St. Peter. He told us of the company some 42 persons who were making their way in one wagon to safety.

We knew nothing of Amos and family but had no doubt he was killed and his family captive. When Eliza heard this she fainted and Mrs. Kerr invited her to come to her house. Mr. Kerr was Chaplain of the 9th regiment.

Eliza being quite an invalid for some time was carried to Mrs. Kerrs and I to wait on her. She did not walk for many days.

August

THURSDAY 24

1911

How time flew I do not know
I was probably two or three
days when another lady staying
at - Mrs. Kerber, said to me
your Uncle has borrowed
an easy carriage to go to
Montreal for Rufus. for
Rufus what has happened?
I said Oh I would not have
told you only I suspected you
knew. He is wounded.

The Indians had been
repulsed. More soldiers had
come up from St. Snelling
New Wlm was deserted the
wounded were being brought
down to St. Peter.

All day I watched from the
window thinking of nothing
but that darling brother. I
was assured they would pass
on that night.

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FRIDAY 25

1911

About- sundown they came
I ran out Rufus raised up
on his elbow and spoke so
strong and cheerful I could
hardly believe it - could he seem
serious? "It is only my leg he"
said "I can live if it has to
be taken off" he said.

Oh if it only had.

Next morning Mother and
I went to see him in a building
hastily prepared for a hospital.

There I saw a number of
wounded women and children
probably few could speak
English. Rufus was carried
into a vacant house and
Mother took up her day and
night watch.

It was six weeks before he
was carried home in a cot -
One by one we all got back.

August

SATURDAY 26

1911

to the dear old Hickory, from
No one to do the work but Father
a beebled old man Mother and
I mostly cut the corn The wheel
was in the block

Rufus Story

Our country volunteers
reached Wilm in the evening
and were taken to a large
building and served with
black bread and coffee
nothing else

After supper the call was
made for volunteers to
go on picket. One big Canadian
who ought by rights to have
been in the Union army
called out. I've had no supper
I am not going Nor I never

August

SUNDAY 27

1911

soix several other

Rufus always the first-
for a hard task rose and
I've had my supper

I am ready to go. So am I
said a young friend about
his own age. So these two
boys were taken out in the
dark. "Thinking every moment
he my last said Rufus"

The stuff heroes are made of
Next morning the Saint-Peter
men met and agreed that
they would only surround the
central part of town and
force the Germans to the
front but the Germans were
panic stricken some were even
pulled out from under beds
I heard Rufus was not present
when the plans were made
and went well in advance

August

MONDAY 28

1911

Here a bullet from the window of a vacant house soon struck his leg He crawled on hands and knees into town and went into a vacant house lay down on the floor and went to sleep After while a big German came in threw him on his back when he fainted carried him up stairs and laid him on the floor Here he laid two days The man came brought him some black bread and coffee Rufus was missed by his friends and one man not one of our special friends went crying up the street Rufus Huggins is missing

He was soon found and with many wounded Germans was placed in a farm wagon and jolted down to Wankato Here Uncle met him with the

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TUESDAY 29

1911

easy carriage and he was soon with his loved ones

Josephine's story

We felt that Aunt surely was gone but what of his little family Wife and two children Through what tragic scenes might they be passing When quite a force of soldiers under Gen Sibley pursued the Indians and routed them in several battles and rescued many captives many of the most guilty fled to Canada Josephine not being among the captives a squad of soldiers

August

WEDNESDAY 30

1911

and a good Christian Indian well acquainted with Arnos were sent north toward Stone Lake. I believe Jules Laframboise had come in with the captive and could give some information. The soldiers over took the Chief, we befriended and no doubt saved Josephine from a dreadful fate. Letta four years old knew the Indian he was dressed as a white man and kept saying "Oh this is a good Indian".

Old Sacred Walker wanted to go on to Stone Lake like many others he expected nothing but extermination of his tribe but he was persuaded that it could be proved he had remained at home and we heard in the uprising he came back with the soldiers. After being detained a while

August

THURSDAY 31

1911

to testify for the Chief Josephine reached our home at Hickey Hill. Charley 18 months old was very sick. The Mother pale but beautiful. Sad but brave. One of the soldiers said she was the most beautiful woman he had ever seen.

Mr. Marsh J. - Father living in Ill. hearing of his daughters capture came to St. Peter hoping to go with the soldiers in search. How glad he was to hear that she and her children were safe at our house where he had met them and heard the whole sad story.

Josephine's Captivity
I am not quite sure of the date believe it was August 17. It was the next day after the terrible

September

FRIDAY 1

1911

beginning at the two Agencies
Many had been killed but not
a runner had reached this out-
Station some 30 miles away

It was Josephine's 24th birthday
Miss Lefrenth's boarded there
she was a teacher (government for
Indians). Ames went out in the
evening to haul in some hay
and the ladies planned some-
thing a little extra for dinner
birthday cake ect. They had
new calico dresses alike and put
them on after while there.

Indian men came in. They each
had a gun but that was very
common to be ready for any
game they might see. Julia was
sitting on the sewing machine
and they were curious to know
how it worked. Julia explained
it in their own language as

September

SATURDAY 2

1911

well as she could and all seemed
pleasant. Ames came and greeted
them took a bell out to put on
an it before turning the open
out. Soon three shots were heard.
I sprang up crying Chip away
for they had lately killed a
Lion. One of the Indians
came in and said "Get out of here
we won't hurt you but get out
at once." Going out they found
Ames on the ground face down
shot through the heart and
probably death was instantaneous.
Julia took Latta and said
come we must go to Mr. Longest
a French man about a mile away.
But J--- with Charley in her
arms continued to sit by Ames.
I can't leave Ames O Ames Ames
she cried after while the
Indians came out of the house

September

SUNDAY 3

1911

and began reloading their guns
 J— then realized it was imperative
 to move on and followed Julia to
 Longue's That night Mr. Longue
 came home after dark afraid
 for his life Next day Julia's
 half brother in native costume
 came bringing native dress for
 her too Julia said if I could
 do you away good I would stay
 I see you can not I said you
 better go with your Brother
 Mrs. Longue was an Indian woman
 who could not speak English

Two days later came old
 Sacred walker and another the
 only Christian Indian at the
 station They had been on a
 hunt and knew nothing
 of the uprising They both
 much grieved that Brother
 was killed Wakamane told

September

MONDAY 4

1911

Josephine if he would come
 to him she would be to him
 a daughter. At she did
 not feel either safe or welcome
 at the French man's she
 went with him to his tent

She thought the wife was
 not over please and she
 asked her to much of the
 hardest work Washing
 laundry at the brook and
 patching the old man's
 dirty leggings Her son by
 a former husband seems
 not to have been at the
 scene of fighting He took
 a fancy to Letha and gave
 her candy so she freely
 went to him saying This
 is a good Indian woman
 Next he asked that he might
 have her for his little girl

September

TUESDAY 5

1911

both he and his mother were displeased at a refusal Josephine was so fearful they would steal her away at night she tied their wrists together at night.

Thus the weeks are in not knowing how the missionaries or the friends and relations at ~~Spokane~~ St. Peter's fared. There was a little tent back of the larger one and here I and her children were hidden when bands of young men would say the children must be still but Indians will come and they would be as still as mice.

There were many instances of kindness to the captive. One woman brought in

September

WEDNESDAY 6

1911

several family photographs another threw a shawl over her shoulders saying I feared you might be cold.

At last reports came that the soldiers were coming and the old chief thinking all Indians would be killed said I must flee North and choose what you will do take chances with me or shall I hide you here some place and you can come out and join the soldiers when they come. Danger and possible death either way but here was a protector and food for a few days at least I will go with you she said.

So over the plains they started one horse and a few

September

THURSDAY 7

1911

robes and blankets, a little dried meat and corn. Brave kind man sharing all he had with these poor captives. So Julia had gone with a few friendly Indians the day after the tragedy and Brother's body unmolested wrapped it in a quilt found still in the house buried it and marked the place so well it was after ward home and placed beside his younger brother. Twelve of his taken by those Father had labored so many years for many people were surprised that we did not feel hatred and resentment toward every Indian. We knew there were many innocent and some that made great sacrifices

September

FRIDAY 8

1911

to help the missionaries and there away I have no time to record them here some have been recognized others never will be in this world but the fact that the gospel can change the savage heart was again proved. There was no ground for off repeated assertion that the Christian Indians were the worst.

Our little party of refugees traveled north several days the baby Charlie was quite sick. The provisions gave out all except a little dried skunk meat which the Mother chewed for him. When the soldiers and Mr. Riggs at the Agency learned from Julia probably of Josephine whereabouts

September

SATURDAY 9

1911

They started in pursuit taking with them a Christian Indian who knew Anna well. What joy it must have been to see the uniforms.

Letta was wild with joy saying again and Oh Mamma I know this is a good Indian. The old Chief was afraid to return and at first wished to go on but being assured

Josephine he would be proved innocent returned with them. Josephine was detained a few days to testify for the old Chief and strange it seems to me Josephine

and Julia both saw and recognized the three men who had been in their house the fatal day.

Two of them were hung

September

SUNDAY 10

1911

afterwards. President Lincoln justly ordered only those executed who had engaged in the uprising not those who fought afterwards in battles.

Mr. Marsh hearing of his daughter's captivity came on from his home in Illinois hoping to join the soldiers and go in pursuit. But by this time she was safely at our home Hickory Hill where they joyfully met.

We hoped Rufus was getting better. There was much sickness in the country among children and soldiers at St. Peter. As several members of our family had never had measles we allowed no one from



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