



[Return I. Holcombe Papers.](#)

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CABLE ADDRESS:
COUES, WASHINGTON

HOME ADDRESS:
1726 N STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE ADDRESS:
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Jan. 12 1895

Dear Mr. Holcombe:

I am still holding proofs to hear from you, and will do so over next Monday, but the printers are getting so restless I shall then have to let the galley go into pages, after which no material additions will be practicable, though any change not disarranging the make-up can be made on the page reviews. Hope to hear from you Monday.

The printers are setting on an average 5 galleys a day - quick work. I have in hand today as far as galley 146, taking Pike into Colorado, and thus far past your Kansas places.

With regard,

Sincerely yours,

Stott Coues

Mr. Quinn:

I want to ask you, if you do not remember that my husband was a scout under Gen. Sibley, and that Gen. Sibley gave him, Charles Boras, a suit of soldier clothes and cap, and after that, ^{he went} with John Moore's camp to Yellow Medicine man's scouts in the years of 1863 and 1864. I know he would be entitled to scout money, as boys who were only 15 years of age, ^{who went to the battle} got their, and I should have his, being his widow. Will you not please tell me how I can get this money, as I need it: and am entitled to it. Please also ask Mrs. Schmidt if she does not remember about it, and get her to tell you all she can, and please help

The white woman
referred to in the
letter was Mary
Edwards -
the 14 year old
girl saved
by the
white woman

me all you can. I helped
the whites all I could, and
my husband helped save
them and their homes, so I
should receive his reward.
My husband's Indian name
was, Charles Magazidan,
meaning Brass.

If you will be kind
enough to attend to this matter
immediately, and let me hear
from you as soon as possible
it will be a favor. Write me
all you know, and advise
me what to do.

Respectfully,

Maggie Brass.

Government School.

Santa Agency, Nebr.

Santa Agency Neb. Jan 15th 1895

W. S. Lucien

Post Office Paul Minn

Dear Sir

Maggie Brass the widow
of Charley Brass who served
under Genl. W. H. Sibley, as scout
in 1862. requests me to write
concerning his money. ~~She~~
~~did not know~~ ~~anything~~
as to how she could claim
his share of the Scout money.
She says there was never an
application for the same -
as for witnesses Tom Robinson
and John Moore could testify.
This is the same woman

who hand you a letter written
to the white woman she
sawid at the outbreak -

Please give this your
attention and let her know
how she can claim his
share of the money -

Respectfully
G. H. Dupuis

Senate of the United States,

ROOM OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,

Washington, July 15, 1895.

Dear Mr Holcomb.

The nomination of Mr Campbell for U.S. Marshal is still pending in Committee of the Judiciary. Why? I do not know. I make it a rule not to intermeddle about nominations from and in other States, and take no part until brought before the Senate for final action.

I confess I can not see how we can restore bi-metallism during Cleveland's term. In my opinion he is determined to establish gold mono-metallism and destroy silver as money of redemption. He is blind as a bat as to any severer other policy. Notwithstanding the lowering clouds I believe our party can regain power by unwavering devotion to our old principles - one of which is bi-metallism. With many best wishes
Yours truly
J. M. Bockell

United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

July 23, 1865

R. I. Holcombe Esq
My dear Sir.

I have your favor.

"The War of the Rebellion. - Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies" now being published. will consist of some 80 to 100 Volumes. I can not break sets - I have examined Vol 1 of Series 1 - and herein send everything in it - touching Liberty Arsenal in any shape or form. There is nothing else in the Vol - applicable or relating to Clay Co or its Citizens

With kindest regards

Yours very truly
J. M. Bockell

The work contains simply correspondence. - Reports - letters &c. William Jewell College will receive the work, but may not receive the Volumes of the First Series. As they were distributed by Congressmen to this & that one.

Ya-tan-ka Republic

Feb. 11, 1895

I have always believed that any history of the Sioux outbreak or massacre of 1862, or of the war following that tragic event, - or any history of Minnesota where that outbreak and massacre took place, or of North Dakota or South Dakota where the war was mainly confined, which omits to give a careful and exact statement of facts regarding the frontier or Sioux Indian Scout force which operated on the Minnesota border, on the Stuyvesant and James rivers and on the Coteau-des-Prairies in the Dakotas - a region filled with buffaloes and wild Indians - will be simply incomplete. But it is not my purpose to give such facts or to attempt to write a history of the stirring times of 1862-66, but to simply call attention to the subject and to give such copies of my father's letters, official reports, military orders, etc., as I have in my possession and can gather relating to the subject, including my own papers relative to the same - in short, to gather and put in form for preservation such material bearing on the outbreak and on the scouting operations as may relate to my father and I and as ^{and} may be of interest to relatives and personal friends and of some aid to the future historian.

Yatanka - pronounced as if written "Yah-tahng-ka" with the accent on "tahng" or the last two syllables like "tonka" in Winnetonka - is a Sioux word meaning buffalo. The district of country

about Fort Wadsworth was sportively termed
Satanka Republic on account of the immense
herds of buffaloes roaming through it. I
remember Major Rose was president and
Commander in Chief, father was Secre-
tary of War, Capt Mills the post quar-
termaster, was I. M. General.

You could gather most of the ma-
terial from the Hist. Society.



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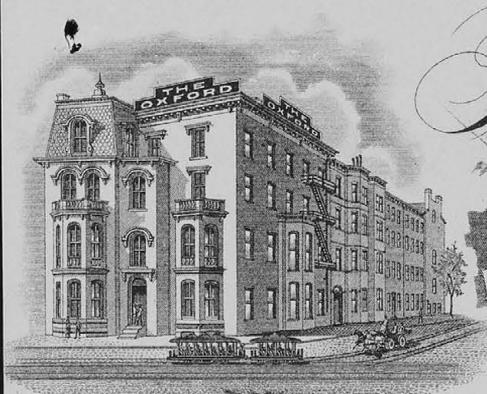
Washington, D.C.

July 24 1895

Dear Major

The nine days are up today and I am O.K. on that case but there are others.

I leave for New Orleans tonight and will arrive there Tuesday morning in time for the Mardi Gras. I will stop at the Royal where Judson is. I expect to be there until Friday when I will return here and spend a day or two, after which will leave for home. Things are going to come out all right here I think. The atty General did not do a thing to the Bowen case. He holds that it only applies to proceedings before the court and not before the Council. That don't "cut any ice" with you but it



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Washington, D.C.

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does with the gentlemen who occupy positions on the US Marshals force. With what I knew before I came here and what I have learned since being here about the Marshals office would be worth considerable to the new Marshal, which he will find that out in about 1 year from date. If there is anything new drop me a line and it will just about feel me on my return here.

Remember me to all engineering friends, which won't keep you up nights.

Yours &c
Frank

I rec'd the letter forwarded. much obliged.

Pasadena Cal

March 14 - 95

Dear Mr. Halcomb; I am
on my back & can't write
much - I'm glad to get your
letter - I had written to
P. H. Kelly the day before
quite a long letter in R. Bank
Center - I saw that Senator ~~W. H.~~
& ~~W. H.~~ Kelly had been appointed
on the part of the Senate -
(P. H. K. is in Senate - is it he?)

I am glad you are giving
attention to the matter -

Dr. Daniels is boarding in Sam
house with me - he expresses
deep interest in matter -

He says Senator from Rice
Co. & Representative Hatchman
will help you - I did not

can so much, as perhaps you
thought, about Monument at
Wood Lake - only it seem
injustice to the proportions
of his story to magnify all
the disasters or drawn
battles - B.C. - New Helm & C -
and neglect the only victory
of the war - the decisive
battle in which the Saragis
were punished &c -

I see a bill for Monument at
Ft. Ridgely - that is right
if they will not pervert
his story in their inscriptions.
The chief credit then was
due to Capt Jim Gorman
of his Russell Rangers, and

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March 14, 1895.

Capt John Jones - Then orderly
Sergeant USA - and Capt
Whipple - The Rangers
nearly half birds - and
John Whipple with
the artillery, beat off the
savages - the Fort would
have been lost with
it's ~~for~~ three hundred
refugees - but for them -
such was the testimony of Gath
and other impartial witnesses
who were in the Siege - Justice
Ramy & others - I was in at the relief
under McPhail - & had the best
of opportunities of knowing

I am having a hard time
my sister Mrs Cathel
is now with me.

My daughter Helen
will be here soon -

I was mending but got
sat back & dont seem
to rally as did before
for several weeks.

But I shall pull through
always glad to hear from
you - Parents was glad
to read your letter

Yours truly
W R Marshall

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United States of America

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G. A. Donahauer Jr
City

MINNESOTA BOAT CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Club will be held at the Commercial Club on Friday evening, March 1, 1895, at 8 o'clock.

The Minnesota War Club

JOHN M. BLAKELY,

Secretary.

The Minnesota Boat Club

@ Club

The Minnesota Stuffed Club.

@ @ @

Lee County Board of Supervisors.

JNO. WALLJASPER, Auditor, Fort Madison, Iowa.

+Members of Board:+

J. F. DAUGHERTY, Chairman,
Keokuk, Ia.

J. M. RISSER, Sawyer, Ia.

CHAS. MARTIN, West Point, Ia.

Keokuk, Iowa

MAR 17 1895

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R. Kolcomb.
M Paul Mann.

Dear Sir and Comrade:

It is always a pleasure to me to hear of Comrades of the old 10th Mo. and I am really glad to hear from you and Naphersburg and that you are both in the land of the living, regarding Bro Alex's whereabouts would say he has been in Seattle Wt. for many years his address is at No 2419 Jackson St. It was the last I heard from him as he never writes himself and I only hear of him from ^{his} married and only daughter who resides in the same city, Alex owns and runs a Transfer wagon and makes an easy living and as he is a happy go lucky fellow that is all he requires though he has been up and down financially several times, as I remember you and him ^{in the army} you were the Paddy Miles' boys of Co "D" and were always into mischief but that was when you were both boys and had not seen your wild oats, I was cut to

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Soldier Idaho visiting Bro D. C. and family con-
sisting of four Boys and eight Girls or an even
Dog. Dave runs a general Country store is
interested in mines and ranches and is a
Member of the ^{Board of} County Commissioners of his Co.
and if Silver was restored 16 to X would
be in good shape though now times are
quite dull there, He resides 30 miles from
Hailey on a State road running out from
Shoshone and operated by the Union Pacific.
I had fine sport the few days I visited
him hunting and fishing — Now as to my-
self I am still engaged in the Wholesale
Liquor business and have been for the past
26 years since I left the Army. I have done
fairly well except the past two years and
being burned out in Sept 93 and since the
unprecedented dull times slow collection
I have not made any money. In reference
to communications in the Gate City referring to
our Co Bonds I am pleased to say I closed
the deal and Re-fundred our entire debt of \$60,000⁰⁰
in 5-70⁰⁰ @ 4 1/2 with 1/2% prem paid the Co. which
I have the credit regardless of politics of making the
best deal of any Western Co. of which I feel quite proud
as it was a just measure of mine and is now acknowledged
by the Gate City as an A No. 1 piece of financing.

Lee County Board of Supervisors.

+Members of Board:+

J. F. DAUGHERTY, Chairman,
Keokuk, Ia.

J. M. RISSER, Sawyer, Ia.

CHAS. MARTIN, West Point, Ia.

JNO. WALLJASPER, Auditor, Fort Madison, Iowa.

Keokuk, Iowa March 17, 1895

As to my family I have all told 9 children
the oldest boy now 37 if living I have not
heard from since 1877 My oldest daughter
resides in San Francisco with her husband
and only daughter now 19 years old My son
Frank has been Cashier in his pocket book the
"Citizens Natl" at Concordia Kansas but is now
Dist Court Short hand Reporter and the remainder
are son Ralph, and daughters Emma, Maud,
Myrtle, Della and Maybel are at home the youngest
Maybel is past 15 years — well give Naphe
bergh my regards and tell him to write me
and the Hatch stamp is out if you come this
way. Dr P. J. Payne our old Surgeon resides here
Marvin Brown of Co "F" across the river at
Hamilton Capt G. D. Gray at I believe Lancaster Mo.
several of the old members was here in Ill.
Capt Morris Frazer is married to a square &
lives in Vinita Ok. More next time

Fraternally Yours
J. F. Daugherty

Established in Keokuk 1859.

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Removed to Hamilton, Ill., 1888.

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WAREHOUSE AND SALESROOMS,
HAMILTON, ILLS.

Presented by -----

D. C. Daugherty



Soldier, Dako. Mich 22nd 1893.

Return J. Holcomb.

Old Comrade survivor of the Bloody Tenth-

Well Return- Old Comrade,

while our hats since the war and our line of bare has been far re-moved I have often that with pleasure of you and the members of Old Co D. and the times when we toothed hard back, not knowing ere we finished same that our southern friends in Grey and Butternut would call you uns leave we-uns alone and we-uns I leave you-uns alone - or, without such kind salutation - send cold lead whittling about our ears -

Bro James ere to me your kind letter to him - of Mar 15th and I read the same, I assure you, with a great deal of pleasure for the date since I last

D. C. Daugherty



heard from you. Years ago - seemed so ancient that I feared that you had passed in your checks to Old Gabriel. Saying to him Let me enter - I ^{Spier, Idaho, 189} once was an honored member of the Old 10th Mo. U.S.A.

My fancy lead me to believe that the patent salutation caused Gabriel to throw the gates and door wide open - Enter "My Son" - Then good and faithful servant

Will Return - As to ever receiving a letter from you I have no remembrance of such event - and am satisfied I never did - tho I have received many from my old Co and have always, promptly, ans came with pleasure.

When I last heard of Bro Alex he was in Seattle, Washington - A letter will no doubt reach him there -

Will return - I am pleased to learn that you have a lovely daughter - I have a family of Boys & Girls, all I consider reasonably intelligent and able to make their way in this troublous world & the 19th Century -

Perhaps no regiment of the late war

D. C. Daugherty

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war is more widely separated than our old
regiment - from the Atlantic to the P. and from
Canada to the Gulf. All, or about all
I am glad to believe, doing fairly well -

Soldier, 189

I am 57 years of age -
in fairly good health - and prospects,
financially - reasonably fair - Times
here for the past two years have been rather
hard - but not more so, I judge than elsewhere
However the outlook for '95 is quite bright
as the mines of both gold and silver are
opening up in the Camps adjacent to
this valley and we look for a pros-
perous year -

I hope to meet many of the old
10th - ere I die, tho' I may be disappointed -

Do you Return - remember a man
of Co D, who came to his Capt at, I believe, Hermin
Mo saying Capt - I want a discharge - at the same time
bairing his arm - look at my arm - it's as ^{skin and} weak as a
Canary birds leg? - Or words to that effect - said man
however staid and made a strong, healthy and
brave soldier during the war.
Return - Well old Comrade - Good Luck
and Good By - D. C. Daugherty.

Dictated

Pasadena Cal, March 29, 1895-

Dear Mr Holcomb,

Enclose you some clippings and notes relating to Gen. Mower also photo. Hoping you can make an article for the Pioneer Press. He was my first division commander in the south, the fifth, seventh ninth and tenth Divisions all served under him and greatly admired ^{him}. He could have been equal to Sheridan with the same opportunities. His capture of Henderson Hill La. March 21st - 64 was one of the most brilliant feats of the war. If possible find newspaper account of it Send copy of article to his son in Washington city Please return to him clippings enclosed you may

send him photo inclosed if you
choose

I am not so well lately am con-
fined to the bed

Very truly Yours

Wm. R. Marshall

Please write, B. H. Gosdell
Orinoco, Olmsted Co, Minn to send
an historical sketch of his ex-
perience in the Sioux war of 18
62 which he is preparing at my
request for the Hist. Society.
Ask him to let you make abstract
for Pioneer Article.

April 7, 1895

Dear Holcomb; This list of
Captin Halfords is valuable.
Will you see that it goes
into proper hands for you
had better ^{perhaps} embody it in a
paper for historical Society.

I suppose I am losing
ground - suffer much pain
but do not lose firmness
of mind - all is well!

Yours truly
April 7-95 Wm R Marshall

Return to *182 W. Molinare Ave*

PASADENA, Los Angeles Co., Cal.,

If not delivered within 10 days.



Prof. S. Holcomb

St Paul

Minn

c/o U.S. Marshal.



D. M. Clough,
Lieut. Governor.

Camp Release Captives.
State of Minnesota

Ed. H. Folsom,
Secretary.

Apr. 7, 1895.

W. L. Quinn, Secy. 493

Senate Chamber.

St. Paul, Minn.

1893

Twenty-eighth session

JOHN W. BELL,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT.

List of half Board families
who was prisoners at the surrender of
the Indians at Camp Release

- 1 Joseph R. Brown family
- 2 Mrs Jane Robertson & children
- 3 James Thompson & wife family
- 4 Lucy Welch.
- 5 Gabriel Revillo family
- 6 Alexis Capombrice & -
- 7 Joseph Capombrice -
- 8 Rouillard family
- 9 John Mord & "
- 10 Antoine Revillo "
- 11 Michael - "
- Rev John B. Revillo "
- 13 Charles Mitchells family

- 15 John + Jerry Campbell + family
- 16 A. J. Campbell + family
- 17 A. D. Campbell + family
- 18 ~~Phileas Prescotts family~~ Left before
the surrender
in canoe form
- 19 Joseph Robnetto family
- 20 David Paribault family
- 21 Louis LaBelle + family
- 22 Mary Woodbury + family (Wife of Warren Woodbury
daughter of Maj. Tallford)
- 23 Thomas Robinson
- 24 Xavier Frenier + family
- 25 Narcisse Mauor " "
- 26 Julia Renville widow " "
- 27 Daniel Renville + family
- 28 Isaac Renville " "
- 29 Gracours Poi + family
- 30 La Ramie family composed 2 Daughters + 1 Son

Wm L. Quinn furnished the foregoing list of families of mixed bloods, who were prisoners of the Sioux and surrendered at Camp Release. His wife was a captive but escaped in a canoe W.R.M. down the Minnesota River shortly before Gen. Sibley reached Camp Release.

Ononago, Minn.

April 16 - 1895

May. R. S. Holcombe,
St. Paul.

My dear Sir =

Your kind favor of 13 came
last eve, replying would say - am
pleased to know you can "understand
it all". Not knowing how "Frank
Balisle" spelled his name, I
spelled it "Baleel" so that any
one knowing him would know
to whom I referred - His name
was pronounced as if spelled
Baleel (emphasis on last syllable,
I knew him well - he was one
of the two regular lecturers at
Upper Agency - (the other was
"Dick Hoback") I did not
intend to "fix any date" for
Mrs. Emmott's arrival at

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the Fort (Ridgely), all I wished
was to state what I saw - ~~the~~
I could not be ^{any way} wrong for
he came in before fort was
relieved. (in writing from memory
I may have ~~inserted~~ ^{inserted} the incident
before it was strictly proper. I
wrote them as they came to mind
with no desire to fix dates or
make history)

No, I do not know that any
one went with Frenier, it
was the report at the Fort
that he had a companion,
which may not be true.
I did not see him go - or return
but saw him soon after and
heard his "yarn", and after
my father came into the fort
I have never since believed
he went any where near
the Yellow Medicine.

Apr. 16, 1895

I got the ³ Mrs Quinns' notes

There were more "incidents" than I have written - when you see Sheehan ask him if he remembers where "Jake Schmale" ^{the brewer} was during the first days fight?

In writing of number in Capt Paul's command for relief of Birch Coulee, I first wrote it 175 men - afterward thought there were more, and altered it. I had no means of knowing exact number. I am some sorry for Capt Grant - not much, tho' - Sibley did some very queer things that fall, and the next year, but I never could understand how a civilian could ~~be~~ be placed in command of troops over a Commissioned

4
- officer - can't now - and
no one except Ribley would
ever ~~do~~ ^{did} such a thing.

There are some things, that,
correctly written, would
knock much of the "glory"
of "Ribley's Campaigns" "Seven
ways for Sunday" - but - well,
I am not writing history -

There is another side to all
the reports I have ever read
that have never seen print,

I am not sure how it
was spelled - but believe,
(from the way it was pronounced)
it was Dickinson - think he
was killed at Birch Canli -
don't know for sure - Don't
know ~~what~~ ^{other} the I was for
James or something else -
Don't know about his
relatives, he had, ~~at~~ ^{about} the

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April 16, 1895

time of outbreak, a younger brother Fred, who worked for Major Salbath at Upper Agency, (don't know what became of him); J. C. Dickinson was a large man - and kept the tavern at the Lower Agency.

(not Borau Lake - unless previous to outbreak) at time of outbreak.

The "good Indians died young" and, after my experience, never wanted a picture in my house of any of them, tho' there were a few - very few, really good Indians.

My father has no pictures ~~taken~~ of himself, taken at any time. I have none of myself except of recent date, and none of them do I care.

I don't believe I have replied
 to every question, and
 tried in a satisfactory manner,
 and now, without desiring
 to be importunate, I
 would esteem it a favor if
 you would inform me
 who I am writing to?
 Are you an old timer?
 When + where - Where and
 when does the Major come
 in? Any way, write me
 whenever you like, and
 any thing I can do for you
 will be cheerfully accorded
 I have quite a large remem-
 brance of old times + timers

Sincerely yours
 B. H. Sadell

The General was a very base
 man, as I personally know
 + I am sorry, very sorry he must pass

away from
 from him

(Dictated)

Paradise, Cal., April 26, ^{1^h} 1893-

Dear Mr. Holcomb,

I thank you a thousand times
for your brave and successful bat-
tle in the Birch Coulee affair.

It was indeed a famous victory!
You deserve to be crowned with the
bays of victorious general, & wish
& could reward you, & had not dar-
ed hope for success at this session.

I think I will send your letter to
Cap Anderson, you'll hardly have time
to write him so fully, & it will
make the old man so happy.

The Brown brothers should make
some reasonable return to you
for your time and labor.

Wood Lake can wait, if no em-
mement is ever built there it
is of less consequence than that

fraud and falsification ^{of history} should triumph as would ^{have been the case} but for this reversal at Rich Corlie.

My days are dragging rather wearily along, no great change has taken place. I do greatly enjoy the presence of my daughter and little Alice. Will you be kind enough to attend to this request of Jno. Dermody, Washington.

Obtain and mail to him the certificate of the Ady. Gen. showing dates and rank of commissions. Make sure that it is correct, by referring to the printed Military History etc. I was commissioned Lieut. Col. of 7th regiment Minn Volunteers Aug 28, 1862, and was commissioned Col. of the same regiment Nov 6, 1863. Please write Dermody that you will attend to

Apr. 26, 1895.

any further request in this mat-
ter. Good by,

Your friend,

William R. Marshall.

(copy) May. 3, 1895

These communications were sent me by
Mrs. Carrigan in the winter of 1894-5, and
the substance of one of them was published in
the St. Paul Dispatch in February, 1895.

I take pleasure in giving them to the
Minn. Historical Society

R. J. Holcombe,



Okeana, O.T., May 6th, 1895.

Col. R. I. Holcombe,

Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Dear Friend and Comrade; Your greatly appreciated letter of April 25th, 1895, with inclosed newspaper clippings, has been received and carefully considered.

I hardly feel able to fully express the gratification your success and letter afford me.

I have been in the dark pertaining to Minnesota affairs ever since I left there last October, except as I have occasionally noticed an extract taken from some Minnesota newspaper, none of which related to the Birch Coulee monument fraud.

Yourselves, the legislature, Gov. Clough and all who assisted you are entitled to the gratitude of all of Minnesota's pioneers, and, in fact, of every loyal son and daughter of Minnesota, for all time to come for the noble and successful effort you made before the legislature in vindicating the truth as to who was the real commander of the recon-

nocturnal expedition that left Fort Ridgley on the 31st day of August, 1862, and on September the 2nd and 3rd, 1862, at Birch Coulee, to the end that it may be recorded upon a granite monument, erected right upon the Birch Coulee battle ground, as correctly and deeply as it is in all the histories and records that pertain to said events, that Joseph R. Brown was the man.

I am very glad that you generously and correctly resisted any and all attempts that were made by some of our friends to leave off of the monument the name and rank of our old comrade, Capt. H. P. Grant, on account of his foolish ambition, and effort to do an injustice to one of Minnesota's noblest pioneers. His weakness, in that respect, has conduced to bring forth your true strength of character and generosity of heart to an extent that will command the admiration of all men as soon as the smoke and feeling engendered by the legislative struggle have passed away. May God bless and keep you steadfast!

I regret that our brave and faithful friends

and allies, Gov. Marshall and Mr. Daniels are invalids like myself and in this hour of your triumph are far distant from Minnesota and the other faithful men who assisted in correcting the great wrong.

Please remember me to them and also to the sons of Colonel W. J. Cullen, the organizer and first commander of the "Cullen Guards" and the sons of Major J. R. Brown and all of my other old Minnesota friends you may chance to meet.

Please accept my thanks and gratitude and write me at any time you may think I can render you any assistance pertaining to the location of the monument or any inscription that should be made upon it. Also please explain to me who Senator Kellar is and what part of the state he hails from.

My family are all reasonably well and sincerely hope yourself and family may long continue to be alike blessed, and that we will have the pleasure of hearing from you as often as may be convenient for you to write.

Your friend and comrade,
Joseph Anderson,

No. 513 Harvey Street, Oklahoma, O. T.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY

WASHINGTON,

D. C., May 22, '95

Mr R. J. Holcombe

Dear Sir,

I have obtained your correspondence and am glad that you are an antiquarian & historian by inclination. I have found my extract on Keltin's names and the words he uses in explaining Missouli. — His results the same as Keltin's, almost to a T ^(but false anyhow) Keltin who was a soldier has not discovered all that; he edited the works of Father Jucker after his death, and was prompted to do so by Jucker.

Keltin I saw frequently in Washington in the winter of 1890-91 & he died about two years ago in Bridgeport, Conn. —

If you need some of my books look over my catalogue & oblige yours.

Albin S. Gatschet
2020 - 15th St., N. W.

CABLE ADDRESS:
COUES, WASHINGTON.

HOME ADDRESS:
1726 N STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE ADDRESS:
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 27 1895

Dear Sir:

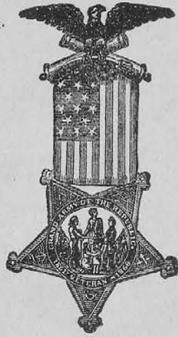
In regard to the question you ask about Pike MSS., I can reply that there is much of his handwriting, and numerous signatures, extant. I have examined probably a hundred of his letters, &c., in the War Dept. archives, and shall give one of them in facsimile in my book, as well as his autograph signature to the portrait which will form the frontispiece.

The new memoir of Pike makes about 100 pages of the book. It is based mainly on contemporary documentary materials.

Your name appears in due course, besides my formal acknowledgments in Preface.

Very sincerely yours,
Allen Coues.

Commander, CHAS. J. STEES, 165 E. Seventh St.
S. V. C., W. H. HOWARD.
J. V. C., E. S. LIGHTBOURN.
Adj't., W. B. SUMMERS, 471 Dayton Ave.
Q. M., B. F. IRVINE, State Capitol Building.
Surgeon, CHAS. GRISWOLD, M. D.
Chaplain, REV. P. W. FULLER.
O. D., H. C. NOBLE.
O. G., A. E. MESSENGER.
S. M., JOHN A. MOAK.



Headquarters

... Acker Post No. 21,

Department of Minnesota, G. A. R.

Central Odd Fellows Hall,
Cor. West Seventh & Sixth Streets.

St. Paul, Minn., May 31st 1895.

My dear Holcomber,

You will oblige me very much if you can spare me a few moments between now 2 4 o'clock and 10 o'clock this evening.

I am very anxious to see you, I want your advice about some burial vouchers referred to me by the County Auditor which comes under H. F. No. 726 and S. F. No. 672.

I must make reply by to night's mail and would like your level headed common sense opinion on the same.

Am still in bed tugging away with old rheumatism.

Sincerely & fraternally yours,
Chas J Stees.

Answer.

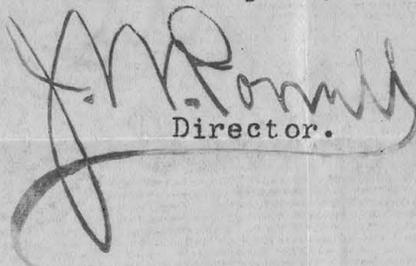
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY

WASHINGTON, June 5, 1895.

Dear Sir:

I have pleasure in directing the transmission to you of a copy each of Bulletins 20, 22, and 23 of this Bureau.

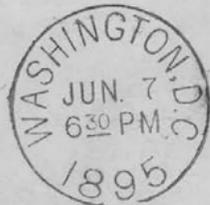
Yours with respect,


Director.

Mr. R. J. Holcombe,

United States Marshal,

St. Paul, Minnesota.



POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

Penalty for private use, \$300.

M. R. J. Holcombe,
U. S. Marshal,
St. Paul, Minn.



This envelope can be used only for reply to official communications. The address must not be changed.

DOCUMENTS.

RETURN PENALTY ENVELOPE.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,
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To the DIRECTOR,

BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

[9-802.]

[A neglect to return this receipt, carefully filled in below, will be regarded as an indication that none of the future publications of the Bureau are desired by you.]

Date, _____, 189_____

To the Director Bureau of Ethnology,
Washington, D. C.

SIR:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of _____

Bulletins 20, 22, & 23.

Very respectfully,

Name, _____

Permanent address, _____

CHAS. J. STEES
Offices, 9 & 10
REAL ESTATE,
Steers Block,
St. Paul, Minnesota

June 6th 1893.

My dear Holcombe -

Could you spare the time
to drop in and take a smoke & talk
over that State Security Auditor affair
regarding Head-stones and burials,
this evening? ?

Piously yours in the Lord.



Office of STATE WEIGHMASTER.

J. G. MCGREW,
STATE WEIGHMASTER,
ROOM 610 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Duluth, Minn. July 22 1895

R. I. Halcomb,
Sec Fort Ridgley Monument Com.
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your request I will try to make a brief statement of what came under my personal observation during the siege of Fort Ridgley from August 18 to 27, 1862. Before commencing my narrative proper, however, I wish to explain why I was not at the fort at the time of the outbreak. Major Galbraith, the Indian agent at Yellow Medicine, had recruited forty-five men for one of the new regiments then being formed, and, coming to the fort on August 15, obtained five government teams from Capt. Marsh to carry his men part way to Fort Snelling; and Lieutenant Culver and I were detailed to go with the party as far as St. Peter, and then return. On Saturday the 16th we drove down to New Ulm, and remained there over Sunday to enable the Major to add to the number of his recruits. Bidding goodbye to



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J. G. MCGREW,
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the villagers of New Ulm on Monday morning, the 18th, we started on our drive to St. Peter, dreaming as little of an Indian outbreak as if we had been in the heart of Europe; but shortly after our arrival at St. Peter, a courier dashed into the quiet village with the startling intelligence that the Indians had commenced an indiscriminate slaughter of the white settlers in and around the Lower Sioux Agency. Major Galbraith at once commenced trying to secure arms for his recruits, but he met with nothing but ridicule from the citizens until a second courier arrived confirming the tidings of the first. After several hours hard work Major Galbraith at last secured fifty old Harpers Ferry ^{muskets} that had belonged to a ^{company} militia, and we soon got these out of the boxes and into the hands of the men, who, fortunately, were all accustomed to the use of firearms. He then went to work to get powder, caps, buck-shot and lead, and by midnight had three rounds



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of cartridges made beside some additional loose ammunition. We then laid down to rest until morning, but at daybreak we were up and after a hearty breakfast were soon on our way to Fort Ridgely. This was the day that the first attack was made on New Ulm, and we could see the smoke arising from burning buildings all day to the south of us, but we did not then suppose the Indians were making such a daring fight as they were upon the settlement only six or eight miles away. The whole country between St. Peter and the fort had been abandoned except by a few settlers, and these were fleeing with looks of horror upon their faces. Armed as we were, and going through just such a country as the Sioux would select for a battlefield, we knew that we were liable to be annihilated at any moment by swarms of Indians springing from the grass around us, and cutting off all hope of retreat, and we



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Therefore felt no small degree of relief when we reached the fort about 6 o'clock that afternoon notwithstanding its weak condition. Lieutenant Sheehan had already returned to the fort with the fifty men of Co. "C", and we now had about one hundred and eighty effective men with whom to make a defense against the savages, whatever their numbers might be.

Having some knowledge of artillery drill I was given a detail of five men and placed in command of a twelve pounder mountain howitzer and stationed at the west gate on the evening of the 19th. About one o'clock that night William A. Blodgett of Co. "B", who, while with Captain Marsh at Redwood on the 18, had been shot through the bowels, came in after having been without food for thirty-five hours, and having walked not less than fifteen miles during that time. He was accompanied by a citizen who was shot by an Indian at the agency at the commencement of the outbreak, the head of the arrow still being in his back when he came in. The arrival of these and other



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persons during the night, who brought in report that Indians were encamped in the valley, only a few miles away, kept nearly everyone on the alert until dawn on the 20. About 8 o'clock that morning I saw some one approaching from the southwest along the road that led out by the sutler's residence down to the ferry. I went out to meet him, and found him to be William A. Sutherland, of Co. "B", who, like Blodgett, had been wounded in the fight at the agency while with Captain Morsh. He was shot through the upper lobe of the right lung, had a deep wound in his hip as if it had been made by a knife, had neither hat nor shoes, but after being without food for more than forty hours, without the aid of any one, had made his escape to the fort. Within two hours after his arrival the Indians commenced to appear in large numbers on the ground over which he had so recently passed. By 10 o'clock they showed themselves in force on the prairie to the north-



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west of the fort, and continued to do this, as for the purpose of diverting our attention from their main object, until about one o'clock when out of the grass and bushes the charge was made upon the northeast corner of the fort which came so near resulting in its capture and the massacre of the garrison and all the citizens who had fled there for protection. Pickets had been stationed at some distance from the fort in all directions, but those on the northeast were not as far out as elsewhere on account of the brushwood coming nearer to the buildings at that angle. One of the Renville Rangers (as the recruits under Major Galbraith were called) named Joseph Auge who was posted about one hundred yards east of the northeast corner of the fort, made the first discovery of the Indians coming up from the ravine through the bushes, fired the first shot, and then, in accordance with instructions, rallied on the fort, but he had barely gotten under cover when the charge was made by the savages, and a volley



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of bullets swept clear across the parade ground, one of which struck Wm Goode of Co. "B" who was just inside the west gate and directly in front of me as I stood by my howitzer which was just outside the gate, and north of it.

I looked upon the charge for a moment, but it was checked by the men under Lieutenant Gore and by Chipplie's gun, and being ordered to take position with my gun at the west end of the row of small log houses north of the barracks we soon had our gun trained upon the savages north east of us. As soon as we ran out from under the protection of the buildings and before we could discharge our gun, the Indians, who were not more than seventy-five yards from us, rose out of the grass and sent a volley of bullets at us that came uncomfortably near, two striking the gun carriage and one a fence post that stood by the side of the man at the limber.

The shell in the gun was intended to be thrown out on the prairie and the fuse had been cut to



J. G. MCGREW,
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explode it at about a quarter of a mile, and consequently our first shell passed over the Indians without bursting until far beyond them. But when the piece was discharged we ran it back so as to get some protection from the building, and, when it was again loaded, the fuse having been cut as short as possible, we again ran the gun out, and as before, were received by a volley of bullets, but this time our shell burst in the midst of the savages, and they commenced to withdraw towards the ravine where they could get better protection, but we continued to follow them up as they sought cover, running our gun out quite a distance north of the buildings from which position we could send shells along the slope of the ravine where they were under cover from Whipple's gun. ¶ After forcing them back from the position which they at first gained, it was decided to bring the ammunition in from the magazines, which stood out on the prairie, about two hundred yards



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west of the northwest corner of the fort, and when this work was commenced I took position at the north end of the commissary building with the howitzer trained so as to protect the men in case a charge should be made upon them. Though ^{fired at long range} bullets were constantly whizzing about the men as they rapidly carried the heavy boxes, no attack in force was made upon them, as was feared when the work was begun. This was a critical moment, for a determined band of the savages might have made a dash upon the magazines and have blown them up before sufficient numbers could have been sent to repel them; but their dread of the artillery more than equaled their courage, and the ammunition was all safely gotten into the west room of the barracks which was thereafter our arsenal during the siege. The main force of the Indians that day was at the northeast, and remained there until the fighting ceased about sunset, the firing



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at the southwest and southeast corners being at long range and the shots more scattering. After the Indians withdrew we had a short time before dark to ascertain the number of casualties that had occurred during the engagement. As has been stated William Goode of Co. "B" fell at the first volley with a bad wound in his forehead. Mark Green of Co. "C" was killed by the same volley at the northwest corner of the barracks near where my detachment was stationed. These were the only casualties that occurred in my immediate vicinity. Andrew Ruffridge and Robert Spornitz of Co. "B" had both been very seriously wounded while at Whipple's gun; Robert Baker, who was stationed near the east end of the barracks with Lieutenant Gene's force, was killed; Sergeant Blackman of Co. "C", ^{stationed} in the building at the southeast corner of the fort, received a dangerous wound in the face. Besides these there were a number of others less seriously wounded, but we thought we were fortunate in ^{having} sustained no greater loss.



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9 That night was one of great suspense, for it was feared that an attack might be attempted under cover of darkness in which ^{went} the building would be set on fire even if the savages could be repulsed. If fire could have been started in any quarter, this would have given the Indians almost certain victory; for the soldiers, when exposing themselves to extinguish the flames, would have been shot down by the savages while crawling ^{up} like snakes in the weeds and grass. But notwithstanding the opportunity offered by the darkness, which preceded the rain that commenced to fall about midnight, no attack was made, though the garrison was several times alarmed by shrieks and cries, but these proved to come from half-crazed refugees who, on approaching the fort, were in doubt whether it was in the hands of friends or foes, and their cries of mingled hopes and fears made the night, indeed, hideous. 9 Thursday morning came, but no savages were in sight,



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and the day passed without any attack being made. The night, like that preceding it, was one of suspense, but Friday morning came and with it greater confidence in our ability to hold the fort until reinforcements should come. But the day had advanced only a few hours when it became apparent that another attempt to take the fort was contemplated; for the savages in large numbers were to be seen in all directions. ¶ As on the 20th, a little after noon the hideous savages came spilling out of the ravine at the northeast and pressed up close to the building in the face of a galling fire from Greer's ^{of Companies "B" and "C"} men, as well as the shells from Whipple's and my own guns, but being repulsed here the attack soon became general, and remained so during most of ^{the} afternoon. ¶ During the progress of the fight Little Crow, with one or two other chiefs, rode over to the east side of Fort Creek, and from a high point just south of the old road, reviewed the



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scene for a few minutes, but when one of our shells burst in his immediate vicinity he put spurs to his pony, and soon disappeared in the ravine. About 4 o'clock the main force was withdrawn from the northeast and sent around by the valley of Fort Creek and across a low piece of prairie, about a mile above the fort, to the Minnesota river valley, whence they were to join the force at the southwest angle of the fort, when an assault was to be made. Seeing this movement, but not knowing what its object was, I thought it would be wise to give them a few shots as they crossed the prairie, and the mountain howitzer I had not having long enough range to reach them, I left the men with the gun, and walked over to the southwest corner where Sergeant Jones was, to report the matter to him. He was standing on the porch of the Quartermaster building, and when



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I had approached to within about one hundred feet of him, he called to ^{me} saying not to try to cross the open space between the buildings where his gun was standing. for if I did I would be killed. The men at his gun were lying down, and he was standing behind a screen of mosquito bar watching the Indians as they were crawling up through the grass and weeds with turbans of weeds upon their heads to hide them. He had his gun double shotted with canister and said the Indians were preparing to make a charge. I then told him about the forces passing around to the northwest, and that I wanted a gun of longer range so I could give them a few shots as they were going, and he directed me to take the 24 pounder howitzer which was standing just inside the west gate. I then went back to my gun, left part of my men with it, and with the others rolled the 24 pounder out of the gate, charged it and sent one shell out



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to the northwest, but the savages now had about all passed down into the Menominee valley, and I trained the gun up the valley and fortunately dropped a shell into the camp of squaws, papposes, dogs and ponies where the braves from the northeast had paused for a moment. The effect was magical. The sound of the bursting shell which was like thunder, echoed and reechoed from every bend of the river so that it sounded as if twenty guns had opened. The result was a stampede in the camp. The squaws screaming, the dogs barking and the braves yelling. Only a part of those from the northeast joined Little Crow at the southwest, and all his efforts to inspire his braves to charge in the face of the big guns failed. Those who had crawled up so close to Jones' gun delivered two or three terrible volleys, but the double charge of caustic from his gun tore through their ranks with such deadly effect that they soon commenced to fall back. While this contest was going on



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at such close quarters at the south west corner between Jones' gun supported by the Remvile Rangers, who fought like tigers, my detachment was following the braves down from the camp with the 24-pounder, dropping shell after shell in the Minnesota valley nearer and near to the forces of Little Crow. The opening of the big gun was unexpected, and the whole force soon commenced to withdraw.

When the sun went down that August evening, glowing along the beautiful Minnesota valley, Little Crow and his savage followers wended their way back to his village with the echoes of the big guns still ringing in their ears, and they no doubt concluded that it was useless to make any further effort to take the fort. It must have been exceedingly galling to the vanquished Chief when he thought of the taunts of the Remvile Rangers. Many of these spoke the Sioux language, and when Little Crow ^{was} urging his braves, with all his savage eloquence to make the charge, they yelled back



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to him, in his own tongue, to "come on," calling him and ^{his} men a set of cowardly braggarts.

Though five days more elapsed before Gen. Sibley would allow any of his force at St. Peter to traverse the country that the Periville Rangers had passed over on the 19th, we had no more fighting, yet the little garrison was worn out with watching day and night, when, on the morning of the 27th, the gallant Col. W. Phair appeared at the head of a mounted force, and, riding up on the point from which Little Crow had viewed the fight on the 22^d, he looked over and saw that the stars and stripes were still floating, and, dashing down into the ravine, soon rode over and shook hands with many of his old friends and acquaintances.

The scene that followed was one never to be forgotten. The three hundred refugees, most of whom had been crowded into the upper story of the barracks during the whole of the siege, now swarmed out upon the parade ground and mingled with W. Phair's men, telling their



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heartrending stories of how their friends and relatives had been butchered in the most cruel manner in their immediate presence. Only a few hours before their only dread had been an attack by the bloody, thirsty savages, but when this strain was removed, many of them broke down and wept, ^{bitterly} saw their utterly destitute and bereaved condition.

Though I was not at the fort when the startling intelligence came that a massacre of the white settlers had been commenced at the Lower Sioux Agency, nor at the time ^{when the report} of the disaster to March and his men came in, yet I wish to say a word here in regard to Lieutenant Thomas P. Greve who, during the perilous hours intervening the time of March's defeat at Redwood and the return of Lieutenant P. J. Sheehan, was the only officer at the fort and therefore in command.

There is probably not another instance in the history of the country where an officer so young had such grave responsibilities so suddenly thrust upon him. He was then but nineteen years of age, had been in the service only six months,



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and had never had the experience of being under fire. Under these circumstances, with less than fifty armed men under his command, he stood ready for the savage onset, which, if it had come before the arrival of reinforcements, would have meant death to every person in the depleted and helpless garrison. No battle-scarred veteran could have discharged the duties, which so unexpectedly fell upon him, more wisely, or more faithfully, than he did during the time from Monday noon until Lieutenant Sheehan arrived on Tuesday morning.

Carefully placing his few men where they could be of greatest service in case of an attack, he kept a ceaseless watch over them until Lieutenant Sheehan came and assumed command. Nor did his responsibility then cease, for he was stationed during the entire siege at the northeast angle of the fort, where the fighting was at shortest range, both on the 20 and 22, and the repulse of the savages, after they had gained possession of two of the outer buildings, tells better the story of his conspicuous gallantry and that of the men



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J. G. McGREW,
STATE WEIGHMASTER,
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under him than any words, however fitly chosen, can do.

Very respectfully

J. G. McGrew

PRESIDENT:
HON. ALBERT EDGERTON, St. Paul.

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TREASURER:
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REGISTRAR AND HISTORIAN:
WILLIAM H. GRANT,
194 Pleasant Ave., St. Paul.

CHAPLAIN:
REV. EDWARD C. MITCHELL, St. Paul.



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Hon. Francis M. Crosby, Hastings.
Gen. James H. Baker, Garden City.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 1, 1895. 189

Return J. Holcomb
St. Paul.

Dear Sir:-

I am advised by the Secretary that you were duly elected to membership in this Society *July 7*, 189*5*, being registered as No. *377* on our rolls.

I enclose a card containing extract from the by-laws relative to membership fee and annual dues. The amount now due from you is

For membership fee,	\$ 2.00	
For dues to Dec. 26, 1895,	2.00	\$ 4.00

The Year Book is now out, and the Treasurer is in need of funds to pay the printing and engraving bills, in anticipation of sales to members, which will reimburse the Society to that extent.

The exchange and library list is necessarily a large one, the cost of these copies being paid from the general fund.

Kindly send check or draft by the 15th inst. if possible, and oblige,

Yours respectfully,

Treasurer.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY
OF THE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

[Filed Aug. 1, 1895.]

EXTRACT FROM BY-LAWS.

SECTION 3. The membership fee shall be two dollars, and the ANNUAL DUES TWO DOLLARS. Provided, that if any member shall join said Society during the last six months of any fiscal year he shall be required to pay one dollar only on account of the yearly dues for that current year.

The payment of fifty dollars by a member at any one time shall constitute the person paying such sum, a life member and he shall thereafter be exempt from the payment of annual dues.

ANNUAL DUES shall be payable to the Treasurer on or before the FIRST DAY OF JANUARY in EACH YEAR. The Treasurer shall notify persons who are three months in arrears, and in case the member so notified shall not make payment of said dues within three months thereafter, said Treasurer shall report at the ensuing meeting of the Society, the names of all members who shall then be six months or more in arrears, and this Society may direct the names of said members to be stricken from the rolls thereof.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY.



S. A. R.

[Filed Aug 6 1895]

WILLIAM P. JEWETT,

TREASURER,

ST. PAUL, MINN

Aug. 9, 1895.

Hon. R. I. Holcomb,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

I have before me yours of Dec. 31st. Since the receipt of your letter I have been endeavoring to secure a leisure moment in which I could write you an extended letter but official duties have engrossed my entire attention and are accumulating so rapidly that I shall have to forego that pleasure for a time yet. I forward you under separate cover a copy of the Railway News Reporter of Omaha which contains a short biographical sketch of my rather uneventful career. There are many things which, if I had the time, I could add and you would doubtless find of more interest than the facts chronicled in this short sketch.

I will be glad to hear from you at any time and will be very much pleased to peruse a copy of the "Holcomb herd-book".

With highest personal regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS,
August 9, 1895.

Silas A. Holcomb

Lincoln, Nebraska.

OFFICE OF

GEORGE THRUSH,

Real Estate and Collecting,

836 NORTH EIGHTH ST.

Quincy, Ill., Aug 15 1899

R I Holcomb

Dear sir & Comrade
your kind letter Recd & contents
noted I am very sorry you cannot
meet with us at Cameron I will
Read you letter to the comrade I think
we will have a time but I want to
say that it cost money to keep
it up but if each comrade would
Remit some it would not be so
hard on the pie I have advanced
something like \$20 for this meeting
(beside my time) you spoke about
about Sandy Demitt well he has
gone to wear his white robe let
us hope to meet by & by hoping this
will find you well I Remain you in
A l & I Geo Thrush



State of Minnesota,
Executive Department.

St. Paul, Aug. 20th, 1895.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:-

Pursuant to the provisions of chapter 227 of the Laws of 1893, R. I. Holcomb is hereby appointed Commissioner to superintend the work of inscribing the name of Peter Quinn upon the monument now standing at Fort Ridgely, this State.

Respectfully,

W. A. Clough

Governor.

St. Peter Minn. Sept 3rd / 1893

R. O. Halcombe

St. Paul Minn.

Dear Sir— Your favor of Aug. 31 is received. I shall be glad to come and do the work as requested by General Muehlberg.

I told the General in a letter to him that I would meet you at Fairfax at 1 o'clock on Monday next week (Sept. 9th) as you requested.

Will you kindly go to the Surveyor General's office and ask for a copy of the field notes of the section in which the lot to be surveyed is located. It may be of service to us in case there is a doubt in regard to the starting point.

Hoping to see you next Monday

I am yours very truly
O. J. Anderson

C. C. Andrews,
Chief Fire Warden

R. C. Dunn,
Forest Commissioner



State of Minnesota,
Office of
Chief Fire Warden.

St. Paul, Sept 3 1895

Tuesday

W. Holcomb Esq

Dear Sir: Mr. Driscoll informs
me he has secured the transportation
for you & would like to have you call &
see him at his office today.

I will be in my office till $11\frac{1}{2}$ this A.M.
Yours truly C. Andrews

✧ The ✧ Sylvan ✧ Lake ✧ Hotel ✧

THEODORE REDER, PROPRIETOR.

Custer, S. D. October 4th 1895.

Dear Mr. Holcombe:

I am informed by my publisher that Pike appeared a few days ago, and have written to him to send you your copy promptly. Kindly accept with my compliments. I hope you will like it, and find the several mentions of your name satisfactory.

Anything you may be able and willing to do to promote the circulation & usefulness of the work would of course be appreciated both by publisher and writer.

With regards,

Very truly yours,
Wm. C. Jones.

Oct 5, 1895

St Paul 10/5. 1895

Dear Major

Following your suggestion I have rewritten, rearranged and added to my article and would like to have you see it before I have it type written. I may have too many details - have tried to avoid the repetition of history which has been so often written. Will you not drop in Monday between 9 am and 1 pm? I would call to see you if I knew where to find you

Very truly

R. W. Johnson

MCRAE, MOORE & MOORE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

Searcy, Ark., Oct 5th 1895

R. I. Halcum Esq
St Paul Minn

Dear Sir

Yours of the 26th ult reached here while I was absent. I have written numerous letters upon the subject inquired of by you and have obtained nothing definite. My office with all of my papers were destroyed some years ago depriving me of the ability to furnish such data as you wish. I do not think you can derive any benefit from coming here. The long lapse of time destroys hopes but little hope of obtaining much information, if it will be agreeable or of any use I will write out in narrative form my recollection of the tough little fight, and will cheerfully bear witness to the gallantry of the 3^d Minn. Yours etc
D. M. Moore

C. C. Andrews,
Chief Fire Warden

R. C. Dunn,
Forest Commissioner



State of Minnesota,
Office of
Chief Fire Warden.

St. Paul, Nov. 7 1895

Saturday 5 P. M.

Dear Maj. Holcomb: Your letter written soon after your arrival at Searcy was duly rec^d & read with a great deal of interest.

On Monday next I start for the Pine woods & probably will not be in my office till Monday the 19th should you possibly return before then. Yours truly C. C. Andrews

E. A. DIETER.

Surveyor and Civil Engineer.

•••••

Nov. 19, 1895

Fairfax, Minn. 11/19th 1895

R. J. Holcombe Esq
St Paul Minn

Dear Sir
I have notified Hancock
twice since you wrote me
the desision of the Comision
on my bill for surveying but
have received no answer and
as I am about leaving this
part of the State please send
me the ten dollars as soon as
possible

yours respt

E A Dieter

MCRAE, MOORE & MOORE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

Searcy, Ark., Nov 26th 1895

Major R. J. Holcomb
St Paul Minn

My dear Major

Your favor of the 23rd inst to hand
as well as the paper containing sketch of the prison
life of Jefferson Davis for which thanks. a few days
after the fight at Fitzhugh's I turned my
Command over to Col J. H. McCaskey our
Lieut South to the army it is true that the
Federals at Little Rock reported me as being
in command here in May & June 1864 but
it was not the fact they were not aware
that I had left this section and was
more of a Confederate force was attributed to
me. I went South to be present at the battle
between Kirby Smith and Ford Steles was
present and acted upon Smith's staff at
the battle of Jenkins ferry - and witnessed

MCRAE, MOORE & MOORE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

Searcy, Ark., 189

all of that miserably mismanaged affair when our boys were shot and given oil. I have received a very kind note from your Andrew and if you think of any thing that I can do in furtherance of your object let me know and I will attend to it. We caught the flu of your Hazzard which brought rain but we know not any cold yet. It is beautiful clear and looking to dry - as to our excursion in regard to Desha County it was in connection with the execution of Bond and his bond of others - if you will reflect I gave you the history of that affair from the time I assigned Bond to the command of some companies of Mo troops to the time he was shot. including the instance when I ordered Rutherford to overtake him. When he resisted and I had to go in person and arrest him. After this I sent Rutherford to keep a watch upon

MCRAE, MOORE & MOORE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

Searcy, Ark., 189

Col. Livingston
who commanded at Botzville, Rutherford Cap-
tured a foraging train and escort and fell back
into Searcy County. and happened in the very
neighborhood in which Bond and his band were
plundering and upon this point of rendezvous
so as they came in he captured ~~them~~ all but
three of the band. and executed them as ought
and handed in pillaging and murdering inoffensive
Citizens, they had that day killed an old man
and his daughter. you will also remember
I explained to you that after Bonds trial he had
escaped. So many things were referred to in our
various communications that it is highly probable that
they are mixed in your memory. I had nothing
to do with the execution of Bond was more than 100
miles away at the time, the country was filled
with small bands of joyous pillaging friends
and foes. and I issued a general order to

MCRAE, MOORE & MOORE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

Searcy, Ark., 189

My command directing all officers in command
of detachments to support this will and to take whatever
measures were necessary to enforce this order. After Rusty
had executed Bond and his gang in a locomotive report
"State" took in obedience to grand order no. - to support
Joghourking. he had executed both Homer Bond, Capt
Squire and Edwards and thirteen of their gang - as they
were caught while engaged in robbing and murdering
Citizens. I am sorry you did not get old George
photograph. Well I have spent this out further
than I expected my family desire to be remembered
to you with their best wishes for your happiness
hoping to hear from you when you have a
leisure moment I remain

Respectfully & truly
D. M. Rae

O. S.

One other matter in regard to the claim

MCRAE, MOORE & MOORE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

Searcy, Ark., 189

McRae, if you see Lieut McRae as I am inclined to believe that he will be the historian of the clan. tell him for me that as I learned from my father there are two traditions as to the origin of the McRaes under that name, the one generally accepted as true. When a Son of great Courage and Strength who had overcome several strong men in fight is proclaimed by his father in Gaelic Son of fortune. the other tradition is that there were three brothers who were natives of the northern part of ^{England} ~~Great Britain~~ before the Normans conquest who getting at feud with a great nobleman of the same Nation slew him and were compelled to flee their country. One fled to the highlands of Scotland one to the lowlands and the other to Ireland and they assumed the name of McRae Gaelic for Sons of Fortune the Highland pronounced it McWhaugh or McRaa, the Lowlands McRca, and the Irish McRce or McCre.

McR

C. C. Andrews,
Chief Fire Warden.

R. C. Dunn,
Forest Commissioner.

State of Minnesota,
Office of
Chief Fire Warden.

St. Paul, Dec^r 19 1895



that I posted the men, that Col. Foster & I am me, within a few rods of the bridge so as to command the road and the crossing and waited for some time until the command had all disappeared & there being no sign of the enemy, approaching we advanced our march on the double quick and had to lay down & over take the command.

Maj. N. J. Holcomb

Dear Sir: If you can copy the inclosed in a letter to Gen. McRae I should think he would be glad to supply what is lacking. Probably you had better tell him you are about finishing up the work so he will not put it off too long. It is nothing very material but will make his paper better historically.

I have this morning rec'd a letter from Capt. Champlin. He says "I am quite sure that it [the bridge] was not more than a mile from the slough". He says, referring to crossing the slough or swamp, "After reaching the hard land I moved on and reached Col. Foster, when we had gone a mile or so we passed down quite a long slope with clearings on each side of the road to a stream with quite a high bridge covered with planks. I think the bridge was 10 or 15 feet high. On the Augusta side the hill was steep, and on the top of the hill on right hand side was a grove of timber and it was in that grove

Yours truly
C. C. Andrews

File Dec. 19, 1
1895.

Referring to the his meeting
the Federal advance ~~guard~~
the morning of April 1 Gen Mc
Rae continues as follows: "after
inter" about that time they fired on us.
There were about a dozen in my party.
There was no retreat for us except back
through the long lane inclined on east
(lost word is indistinct. It may be "west") side
with high rail fence. Along this lane was
a long almost impassible mud hole
and if we were pursued there would
be little chance of escape. After retreating
some four or five hundred yards
finding we were not pursued
the fence was let down on the east
side; the night as the Federals were
advancing. I was at a loss to know
where my command was. I started
to the point of rendezvous at the
mill so as to meet with Freeman.
The earth seemed to have swallowed

File Dec. 19, 1895 12.

Rutherford. I had not proceeded far before I heard firing and at once started in direction of the sound and came up with Freeman's command who had attacked the "Federal" in the Fitzhugh woods.

If Gen. McRae will reflect he will ^{perhaps} see that in the above not enough time is allowed between his meeting the Federal advance and Freeman's attack. Nearly ~~five~~ ^{four or} quite five hours must have intervened between those occurrences. The Federal left Augusta about 6 in the morning. They left the White Church on their return march about 12.30 and were attacked at Fitzhugh's place between 1.30 & 2 P.M. It seems desirable that Gen. McRae supply some

File Dec. 19, 1895

3

movement or occurrence
& occupy that space of
time. As it now reads
it gives the impression
that the attack at Fitzhugh's
was almost immediately
after Gen. McRae
saw the Federal advance.

If Gen. McRae has a
distinct recollection of the
ground and timber west
of the Golybitt house & occu-
pied by his command at the
hottest of the fight it would
be of interest if he would
briefly describe it.

R. J. Hilton B.

Jan. 2, 1896

Dear Sir

I have been looking you up
but I cannot find you could you
walk over to the Union Depot to -
~~morning~~ ~~and~~ tomorrow at 4 o'clock
in the afternoon

I am yours friend
Joe Big Eagle

POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT.

United States ^{OF} America

THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.



Major R. J. Holcomb -
Room 689 Martin St.
St. Paul
Minn

January 5

, 1896.

Major R. I. Holcomb
St Paul Minn

Dear Major

Yours of 29th rec'd to hand. glad to hear from you again. In regard to the location of the sketch I wrote you regard to the Fitzhugh affair I endorse your suggestion, at this length of time it is impossible for me to recall what time elapsed from that at which I encountered great Antons emanous at the mouth of the lake and the time at which I heard the firing. I remember I travelled some distance and cut out from the small party with one scout looking for Fannon & Rutherford emanous. and halted waiting for them to report how much time was consumed in this I cannot of course recall to change the report in accordance with your suggestion, I have not been over the ground for many years but according to my recollection the road running north from Augusta falls a few miles out of the town. the one you went over and on which is Antons and the White church is the left hand and the fork turning to the right runs by a moss mound Mc Koy. near Mc Koy is a stream called Lupis over which was a bridge this is the only stream over which was a bridge that I can recall and this must be the place referred to by Lieut Champion. The attack on Jacksonport in which Lieut Col Lee was killed was

long after the fight at Foyhugh, I am satisfied that the Lieut
 Low of Beards Company was a different person from Col Low of Fairmount
 Regt. I cannot recall the Lieut to mind, I commanded the brigade to which
 Beards Company belonged for more than two years yet I am not able to recall
 the names of any of the lieutenants save those who were near me. I was talking
 with you of Captain McLoiffin when I related the trying situation I was placed
 in when at Genl Witts head quarters, his command consisting of a mob of
 unarmed and undisciplined men. With the Federals advancing upon him
 and within five miles of him. I was unable to have an armed scout sent out
 and was expecting an attack very imminent - when such a stampede would
 have occurred as would have satisfied Witts men that they had better keep out of the
 military service. While in this state of suspense McLoiffin came up with his
 Detachment Company and I was relieved - Strange to say the Federals did not attack
 Witt, but were content with picking up some of his men as had straggled away
 from their camp this was in Van Buren County - I do not think Rutherford
 will be much pleased to find that he was expelled by Arkansas troops
 in the Federal service. our experience was that these troops did not have much
 fight in them, probably he had detachments from Mo or Nebraska regiments
 except about a week during the holidays. we have had a pleasant winter
 but one slight snow. It is clear and pleasant now. times are easier with our
 fortunes than at any time since 1861. Can selling for 25c per lb at 4c net

When the carts and smoke houses are well filled, we feel independent as the farmers say if we have plenty to cook we can wear our old clothes and do well enough. Ah major if we only had the purchase money paid out here that is disbursed de Minn we would have a rich country. Mark my prediction the South is advancing and in twenty years will be the richest section of the Union. the only fear I have is from the foreign immigrants heretofore we have been exempted from from them but during the past year Italians, Hungarians and Germans have lodged in our borders.

As to politics. The democratic party should adopt the legend upon the crest of arms of the house of Lancaster "Quid Feci Ubi Lapsus". The history of the two wonderfully alike. for one I can see no hope for the democratic party in the future so long as we have killed it so dead that the resurrection trumpet alone can bring it to life. Sterling lifelong demomts favor to go into conventions but they be enticed into voting for the single standard, for we feel assured that the single standard men will control the next national convention we are hopefully divided now can I see any middle ground upon which we can all stand. There is nothing to be hoped from the Populists. I favor a new party - bottomed upon the unerring principles of Jacksonian democracy - but enough - Mrs McRae says do not use that lost photo of mine. My family unite with me in wishes for your happiness.

Respectfully
J McRae

C. C. Andrews,
Chief Fire Warden.

R. C. Dunn,
Forest Commissioner.



State of Minnesota,
Office of
Chief Fire Warden.

St. Paul, Jan 9 1896

Dear Maj. Holcombe

I have obtained a
good photograph of Col. Foster
which I will let you have with
some others if you will call

Yours truly

C. C. Andrews,

Augusta Ark

Jan 12/96

R. J. Holcombe Esq

Dear Sir.

In reply to
yours of 7th am sorry
to say I can not
give you any infor-
mation in regard
to the bridge ^{between} the swamp
and Augusta. As there was
no bridge when we came
here and furthermore there
is no stream or branch on
the road to Augusta.

I can give you the names
of two of the confederates
James Walker and
John H. Bishop wounded

in the fight and stand
at our house until
they got well.

Very truly
R. K. Fitzhugh

1
Jan 16, 96

Dear Maj. Holcombe

I hope you will not be hurried in preparing your paper. I wish it might be your masterpiece. I hardly need to repeat that you should make it truly impartial and such as will be satisfactory to fair minded men. Keep me in the back ground as much as you consistently can. It is the valor of Minnesota soldiers that should be well in relief. Then

Jan. 16, 1896 2

Your paper ought to be acceptable
to our History Commission &
the Historical Society.

Capt. Matthews was a gallant
man & should be so designated
others we have spoken of.

The question may arise
why if there was such a confeder-
ate force ~~at~~ near Augusta did so
small a command as mine
go up there? Because Head-
quarters at Little Rock had
been misinformed as to the
confederate force.

I want you to make it
clear that the force

Jan. 16, 1896 3

(Freemans) that advanced
in line in good order through
the field, with guarded trees, on
the east side of the road
enabled us to ~~see~~ plainly
see & know that we were
^{& by experienced fighters}
out considerably out numbered,

The fact that we knew we
were out numbered makes
our subsequent charge
against ~~apparently~~ the charge
apparently of their combined
^(from the good boys)
force, the more creditable
we knew we were contend-
ing against superior numbers

Jan. 16, 1896

I cannot tell how long firing occurred after we faced to the west before the crisis came. There was yelling & counter yelling - so much clamor, with the firing, that as stated in my narrative I had the boys call "cease firing" & indeed so that orders could be heard. Whether this was before or after the crisis I do not remember, but my impression is it was before. We had fought some minutes facing to the west when the Confederates

Jan 16. 1896. 5-

being in ~~the~~ what was then thick
woods, started in a fierce
charge against ^{us} the yelling
was tre mendous and indicated
a large body of men moving
against us. I felt that if
we stood still we would be
overwhelmed and that our
only safety was in the boldest
movement. I ~~was~~ ^{had been} at the
front all the time and ~~shouting~~
shouting "come on" led my
command which promptly started
on the run toward the assaulting
force. Immediately we were
so near the enemy that

Jan 16, 1896 6

I remember perfectly well drawing my ~~own~~ sword feeling that I would need to use it for protection. The enemy broke and fell back that & I have always felt was the crisis of the battle and that we won the field then and there. Of course I desire due credit for that act. ~~presented~~ and believe you will be able to put it in a ~~so~~ clear yet temperate form.

I would like our Government people to have a vivid impression of

Jan. 16, 1896
the spirit of that little force
of Minn^a men charged against
three times their number.

It may not be advisable
to draw any comparisons, by doing
so there might be danger of excit-
ing jealousy & criticism. The

~~charges of the 1st Minn^a at Gettys-~~
~~burg~~

of valor
~~charges~~ of Minnesota men volunteers
at Gettysburg and at Chattanooga
is immortal but they had the
moral inspiration felt the
stimulating influence of
the great armies which they
fought with them on the field.

Jan 16, 1896 8

Here was a little detachment of troops all alone. How there may be a few more famous examples of Meen^a gallantry among Meen^a vols. but only a very few which better tested true soldiership of our Meen^a volunteers.

Some one reminded me not long ago that

soon after Freeman's
 line showed itself, or in
 the early part of the fight
 the Commanding officer of
 the Union forces said to
 the men as a sort of
 rallying in junction (but
 not ~~at~~ at all in speech
 making form) "we want to
 remember what State we
 are from" is words to that
 effect. They were repeated
 in junction not to waste
 ammunition. Yours truly
 C. C. Andrews

July 17 96

Major. Holcombe

I have re-examined
the list of killed & wounded
at Fitzhughes Woods

Leaving out Sanderson

it is correct.

The roster it is true
does not mention that
H. W. Harmsworth was
killed. But the roster is
acknowledged to be imperfect
Yours C. S. Andrew

as you said for me to do I opened the letter

Theo. Maxfield & Brothers

Merchants.

Batesville, Arkansas, Jan 29th 1896

Ref: Account by

St. Paul Minn

Dear Sir. Yours of 21st to hand. Glad to know
your visit to Arkansas was so satisfactory. I tried
to find a number who hoped to get some
information from to send you but failed to get
up any thing worth reporting, the trouble is that
there is a great many things out of the
memory of most men. I knew a great deal more
of the ~~fight~~ fight after talking with you than
did before although I was on the ground. I will
be glad to read your report of the whole
affair. Thanks for your compliments in note
about Robinson's Co. I rode with Capt. Knicker
four years at a time of line from 17 to 21 yrs of
age which did not realize what a horrible thing
war was. He who saw the one between the States
kiss never want to see any more, matter in
all seem to be looking up. The County is full
of provisions & everybody is happy. Should you
make another trip to our State think you would
be great improvement to the timber interest
especially is looking up. There are thousands of
acres of the finest timber in the world in vicinity
of Batesville, which should soon find a market. Hope to
hear from you again. You should be satisfied

Theo. Mayfield & Brothers

Merchants.

Batesville, Arkansas, Nov 20th 1870

Rf Hold out &

St-Paul Min

Dear Sir. Your enclosing and tidings to fight to a
none of your paper you sent me rec^d in Batesville,

Your acct covers the part in the affair.

We thought had the Yankees bagged. but
our bay failed to hold, a time has been so
long of course it is impossible to do it all
the points. She was refused to a delay in
to Drummou & one a war gas Patterson.
Dickory Valley Ark

Theo. Mayfield & Brothers

Merchants.

Batesville, Arkansas,

March 3rd 1896

My Brother Holcombe
St Paul Minn
Dear Sir, I have at last come across a
man who belonged to Sumner's command
who was in the Little Rock fight. He says
Sumner had within three hundred men
about one half only armed. He says
Capt Tracy was killed in the fight. It
is not too late for further information. I can
get from him almost any thing you want to
know. Suffer now or you will be compelled to
suffer now. I see a shadow on your shield
as filled

Theo. Maxfield & Brothers

Merchants.

Batesville, Arkansas.

Mr. Homan White of Sulphur does not remember
enough to be of any importance.

Would be glad to see you in Ark again, will
promise a little more attention than you have
before. Every thing moving along quietly, no
money but plenty to eat.

Yours to

Theo. Maxfield

In reply to:

Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,

Brown Valley, Minn.

July 6th, 1896

Dear Friend Holcomb

A severe attack of the grip, which has kept me in bed for sometime, has prevented my writing you sooner. I am not entirely well yet but feel well enough to write a few lines. I hope the injunctive proceedings in regard to the Birch Coulee matter will not prevent the removal of the monument and the changing of the inscription before the meeting of the next Legislature.

From all I can learn Charles Mitchell was at Fort Ridgely during the siege. I at one time thought he was with the Indians but this mistake arose from the fact that although he was at Camp Release

In reply to:

Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,

....., 189.....

he was there as a cook for the soldiers. Fred La Croix who was at Ridgely lives near here—among the Indians—but I could not get to see him. He would know all about it. Charles Blair did not reach Ridgely until 7 days after his release by Little Crow on the night of August 19, 1862. Leopold Wohler was not at Ridgely at all. I see you are considerably taken up with one Big Eagle. The old rascal has an interesting history—so had Cut Nose, Little Six, and Medicine Bottle. When you “pump” him again try and find out why he should not be called Big Liar instead of Big Eagle. I would

In reply to:

Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,

189

like very much to see you, and if I can possibly make the raffle in May or June I shall go down there. I have about given up seeing you here. The historical society ought to send you out here to collect material regarding the early history of the state and I do not see why it doesn't.

I hope your Carnival was a success—financially and otherwise. My wife and I intended to take it in but at the last moment had to give it up. Remember me kindly to Judge Standron, and believe me

Your friend
S. J. Brown

THE
NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.

Advertising Department.

3 EAST FOURTEENTH STREET,

NEW YORK,

February 19th, 1896

Hon. R. J. Holcombe,

689 Martin St.,

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir -

It has afforded us much pleasure to place your name upon our complimentary mail list to receive a copy of the North American Review monthly on publication for two years in consideration of your having prepared the write-up of St. Paul in our February number. We have to-day mailed you two copies of this issue as requested, and with our thanks for the interest you have taken in our magazine,

We are,

Yours very truly,

The North American Review

\$1.00 A YEAR.

ESTABLISHED 1892.

ARTISTIC

JOB PRINTING

A SPECIALTY.

All Work
neatly executed
at
Reasonable Rates.

OFFICE OF

THE WEEKLY BEE,

F. D. DENTON, Editor.

Batesville, Ark., March 9th 1896.

H. D. Holcomb

St Paul, Minn.

Dear Friend,

I learn through
Mr Fitzhugh, that your
article on the Fitzhugh fight
has appeared in print, if so
I greatly desire a few copies
of same. Mr Conway Fitz-
hugh, brother-in-law of Maxfield
also requests that you send
him a few copies of report
when you were here. I had
sold the Bee plant, but

\$1.00 A YEAR.

ESTABLISHED 1892.

ARTISTIC

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OFFICE OF

THE WEEKLY BEE,

F. D. DENTON, Editor.

Batesville, Ark.,

189

On the 1st inst, was forced to take
it back, as the party failed to
make payments as promised,
even after I granted him one
month extension of time.

Hope you may sometime
find it convenient to visit
us again.

Yours Very Truly,
F. D. Denton.

\$1.00 A YEAR.

ESTABLISHED 1892.

ARTISTIC

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All Work
neatly executed
at
Reasonable Rates.

OFFICE OF

THE WEEKLY BEE,

F. D. DENTON, Editor.

Batesville, Ark., *March 30th 1896*

A. J. Holcombe,

St Paul, Minn.

My Kind Sir,

*Your highly
Appreciated letter of the 26th
came to hand on the 28th and
gave me much pleasure in
reading both the letter and
the printed account of the
fight at Fitzhugh. I let
Perrin have the article to read
and McGuffin gave Sunday
yesterday evening in reading it.
No one here received copies*

hence this was the first account they had of it. I now understand how it was, that several of us received copies of The Pioneer Press of 1/26. but no one the article desired. the copy I received was the first part, first page 1 to 8, so did Perren, McGuffin & al. I scanned closely every column and noticed that it was only the first part of the Pioneer Press. same as the other top received. This evidently was the fault or error of the folding and mailing clerks. sent out the wrong part.

Conway Fitzhugh says his brother Rufus received a correct copy of date with the account as written by you.

Conway Fitzhugh's address is J.C. Fitzhugh, Bateville ark
 of Haul & Co.

ARTISTIC
 JOB PRINTING
 A SPECIALTY.
 All Work
 neatly executed
 at
 Reasonable Rates.

OFFICE OF

THE WEEKLY BEE,

F. D. DENTON, Editor.

Batesville, Ark.,

189

I am very desirous
 of republishing your article
 entire in The Bee at an
 early day and would much
 like, if possible to secure
 the electrotpe of the group
 of McKae, McGuffin, Perrin
 Maxfield & Capt. Aland to
 appear in middle of page
 Had I received the copy when
 first printed I would have
 ordered 1000 copies of that page
 as Supplement to The Bee,
 but suppose it is too late now.

4

as I suppose the forms of the
Pioneer Press are printed from
electro plate or stereotyped forms.
Will you see if that stereo
page has been re-metted
and if not, if the Co will
print and express to me
I will pay for 1000 or 1500
copies upon notice of the
amount. otherwise have
the ~~stereo~~ cut of the Coups
removed and sent me if
possible with bill for amount.
I suppose the office has
certainly retained the original
copy made for issue of 4/26.⁹⁶
and thus can readily remove
a plate for me
I foresee that I had to
to a d-m vessel and had
to take the office back. I had
a chill yesterday and feel weak and
bad today. will write you fuller
at some other day.
Hoping to meet and cultivate more
your friends
H. D. Denton

LAW OFFICES
STEVENS, O'BRIEN, COLE & ALBRECHT,
BANK OF MINNESOTA BUILDING,
ST. PAUL, MINN.

HIRAM F. STEVENS.
JOHN D. O'BRIEN.
HAYDN S. COLE.
ARMAND ALBRECHT.

StPaul, Minn., May 19th. 1896.

R. I. Holcombe, Esq.,

StPaul, Minn.

Dear Sir:--

In preparing the sketch of me for the Pioneer Press
publication, will you use as closely as possible the enclosed
article, and oblige,--

Yours respectfully,

H. F. Stevens

Monday eve.

Dear Mr. Stevens--

*There was no inclosure
with this and I have waited a few days
expecting the mistake would be corrected. Ad-
dress care Pioneer Press.*

Very truly &c

R. I. Holcombe

Here it is -

New-York  Tribune.

New York, June 19 1896,

Mr A. J. Walcomb.

Galvener Ref.

St Paul Minn.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find our cheque
for \$ 7.⁵⁰ in payment of your account.

Please acknowledge its receipt to,

Very respectfully,

Nathaniel Tuttle,

Cashier.

June 22, 1896.

Circuit Court of the United States,

Saint Paul, Minnesota.

OSCAR B. HILLIS, Clerk.

R. J. Holcombe Esq

Sir — Judge Nelson asked
me to notify you that he expects to
leave the city, for his summer va-
cation, this week & wants you to
return to him the magazine which
you borrowed from him.

Yours &c
Oscar B. Hillis

OFFICE OF
L. H. Hopkins
 COUNTY AGENT FOR

HENRY A. CASTLE, President, St. Paul.
 J. A. GILMAN, Vice President, Minneapolis.
 L. F. HUBBARD, Red Wing.
 WM. P. DUNNINGTON, Redwood Falls.

L. L. BAXTER, Fergus Falls.
 J. R. PARSHALL, Faribault.
 GEO. N. LAVAQUE, Duluth.
 I. H. B. BEEBEE, Secretary, St. Paul.

Benville COUNTY.

Fairfax Minn. May 26th 1897

May. R. J. Halcomb

St. Paul Minn.

Dear Sir

A Methodist Camp meeting begins at Fort Ridgely on Sunday the 30th inst. and continues three days and on Wednesday the church will be dedicated and Memorial Services will be held also at that time. Wednesday the 2nd day of June will be the big day. There is a man putting up a patent fence here that is very nice and I think very reasonable. I am living in Fairfax my son having just married & is working the farm. I can not accord you & the lady as complimentary fare as at the Hotel on acct. of lack of room but such as I have I would be very glad to extend to you. I await your further orders I am very Respect-
Yours

L. H. Hopkins

*Cal. Sheehan - Recd. this an hour or so ago. It explains itself.
 I suppose we will go up Saturday morning and
 (over)*

stay till Monday. We can do our business
and take in the camp meeting on Sunday,
but cannot stay till Wednesday.

I will try to see you today or tomorrow

In haste, very truly &c

R. J. Holcombe

June 27 - 1896.

Major R. I. Holcomb,
St Paul.

My dear Sir:-

I have your name from a newspaper clipping, and I write you at random, hoping you can tell me something of the Holcomb family 200 years ago.

The only record I have is, that in Mass. down near the Conn. line, about 1714, Samual Ward, (son of Wm and Judith Ward of Marlboro Mass) married Damaris Holcomb and lived at Union, Ct.

If you can tell me anything further of Damaris, who is my grand mother, five generations back, - or if you can help me to the address of any one who may know, you will render me a service. Thanking you in advance for your kindness,
Sincerely
John Paul Goode.

July 9 - 1896.

Major R. L. Holcombe
St Paul.

My dear Sir.

I wrote to Dr. Wm F -
Holcombe as you suggested, and have
a reply this morning. He gives me the
following:-

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| | Children | 1. Thomas (4th) |
| | | B. Nov 2-1715 - d. about 1780. |
| Thomas Holcomb. (2nd) | | 2. Josiah. |
| B. Sep. 1690. Simsbury Ct. | | 3. Sarah b. 1719. |
| m. Christina Brown | | 4. Damaris |
| (Smith?) | | 5. Leahy. |
| (seven children) | | 6. Sibyl. |
| | | 7. Isaac Perry. |
| | | b. 1736 - d. 1762. |

This Damaris was born probably about 1721.
My record, from the "Ward Family", Boston 1851, says:-
"Samuel Ward b. Oct 2-1694, m. Damaris (Holcombe)
and lived at Union Ct. where the births
of five of his children are recorded, that
of the 6th Ruth is found at Somers Ct,
to which town the family is supposed to have
moved, and of whom no further record
is found anywhere." Their children were
1. Jonathan b. 1720; 2. Wm b. 1730; 3. Simeon b. 1732; 4. Mary,
b. 1734; 5. Rebecca, b. 1737; 6. Ruth, b. 1747. " — This Ruth
— my ancestor — m. David Phelps, and lived in
Columbia Co. N.Y.

You see the first child of Damaris, by

my record was born 1725. So my Damaris should have been born about 1700. That is about the right age to be a sister to Thomas H. (3rd)

I hope you have been able to find some further trace of the 3rd generation, my Damaris will doubtless be there.

Dr. Wm F. H. refers me to Loomis' Genealogy for Thomas ^{4th},

The origin of the name Halcombe is very interesting, as also the items on the age of the family.

If you should happen to have any references to published documents where Halcombe is mentioned I shall be glad to know of them.

I notice that the Gov. of Nebraska, is named S. A. Halcomb. I have written an inquiry to him, but have no reply as yet.

Thanking you for past favors,

Sincerely

Paul Goode.

LAW OFFICES

WILLIAM M. MAGUIRE.
HENRY C. CHARPIOT.

ARAPAHOE BUILDING, DENVER, COLORADO.

POST OFFICE BOX 767.

R. I. Holcombe Esq.,

c/o United States Marshal's Office,

St. Paul, Minn.

My Dear Sir:--

I send you by mail to-day copy of Lummis' Magazine "The Land of Sunshine" containing illustrated article on the Morro Cliff, which I am sure will interest you, and which, I am satisfied, you will preserve as useful. Kindly accept same with my compliments.

Very truly, yours,

W. M. Maguire

Aug. 21st, 1896.

Georgetown Aug 22-95

Dear Bob.

I have the
gripes to day. it beats the
d- that this business stays
by me so. I received your
kind letter, also paper tell-
ing of the Gen's ultimatum
in Batt. a. I intend to be
with you next Monday
unless I a too ill to travel
which I hope will not be
the case. I have been re-
ceived like a lord, old and
young, rich a poor do me
proud. Give respts, to Gen
Coe, Miss W- and all the
boys.

Hance.

State of Minnesota,
COUNTY OF RAMSEY.

} SS.

R. J. Galcombe

This is to Certify, That

~~*Frank Huns*~~

is hereby appointed Challenger for the Democratic party in the 11th district of
the 5th Ward of St. Paul, Minn., at the general election to be held on November
3d, 1896.

Dated November 2d, 1896.

John S. Lowrey
Chairman Dem. Co. Com. of Ramsey Co., Minn.

P. J. Metzdorf

Secretary.

C. C. Andrews,
Chief Fire Warden.

R. C. Dunn,
Forest Commissioner.



State of Minnesota,
Office of
Chief Fire Warden.

St. Paul, Dec^r 1 1896

Maj. A. J. Holcombe

Dear Sir: The type written
copy of your communication is
now ready any time you may
call.

Yours truly
C. C. Andrews

Charles Betcher, President.

Incorporated 1889

Chas. A. Betcher, Sec. & Treas.



Charles Betcher Lumber Company.

Authorized Capital \$400,000.00

Ottoville Minn / 20 1897

R. J. Holcomb Esq St Paul Minn

My Dear Sir: What was the Indian name of
Big Stone Lake? I used to know, but it has
passed entirely from my mind. You either
know or have the opportunity of knowing.
I desire the information very much.

Yours truly O. G. Wall

Thursday Jan. 21

My Dear Sir - The Sioux for Lake is "M'da" - or liberally, "Meda".
For Stone it is "Imnija," or "Ye-Mine-zha," and for Big it is "Tonka".
Therefore Lake Stone Big - which would be the Sioux form - is "Mda-
imnejah-tonka" - literally, "the lake of the big stones," or
"the lake of the place where there are big rocks."

The Sioux generally contract the names of localities, natural
features, etc., and probably called the lake "M'da-je-tonka," or something
like that. I am very poor in Indian, but I believe the above is right.
I can't see Quinn or any others to-day. Yrs very truly
R. J. Holcombe

1043 N Clark St
Chicago Ill
Aug 7/97

My dear Mayor

Have been intend-
ing writing you every day
but on account of lazy-
ness have failed to do so

Have been taking things
easy ever since I got
here In fact I did not
know how tired I was
until I got a chance
to lay around, and do
nothing. Have had a
couple of letters from
Mr Brown, But nothing
different than it was
when we saw him

Mr Murphy being perfectly
willing for me to go ~~ahead~~
ahead but no money
until they had their
share etc. So I have
written them that under
such terms I could not
go on and would
seek work elsewhere,
and I shall start in
here this week.

I will keep you
fully posted and if
it should happen
that I could bring you
down to the big city
would like very much
to do so.
Hope that you

have
not, succeeded in
getting some money out
of Henry Johns, as I have
a sort of a spite against
him for the way he
acted.

Write me a few
lines and believe me
to be with kindest
regards and remembrances

Sincerely Yours

W. M. Jones

102

London, July 27th
1894

Mr. P. J. Holcombe.

Dear Sir -

Your letter of the 22nd came safely & in my own defence desires a reply. With the Thermometer at 104 in the shade. I presume I shall fail to express myself as I would like, but as I do not care to remain under the imputation of "female generosity" which men so delight in attributing to our sex.

I will simply say that it was
from no such motives that I
refused your request. I have
always had an intense re-
sistance to posing before the
Public. and as my friends
know me without my Photo.
I did not feel it necessary
to be at any expense for
the "Dear Public". In so far
as I can please my friends
I am always willing to do it.
and will before I leave get
a picture for the Society.
if they so desire. I expect
to be in St Paul. in a
short time, & shall be at
271. Pleasant Avenue.

I shall be delighted to see
Mr Schmidt. and recall
those memorable days. I little
thought we would ever meet
again. I shall read his
Narrative with ~~interest~~ interest.
and most sincerely hope
that you may be success-
ful in finding where Miss
Williams is if living. For years
we corresponded! but of late
I have heard nothing of her.
My copies of the Press were
entirely inadequate for my
friends. & I think from the
demand for them that the
Press must have had a good
sale of that number.

Gov. Marshall sent me a list
of corrections, to be made in my
Narrative. I will see to it when I am
in St Paul. I learned with re-
spect of the death of Dr. Asha &
Francis. As possible I mean to
visit Birch Coulee, before I leave
the State. Desiring that you
should not consider me one
of those "dissatisfied ones, whose
chief merit is in scolding, or
"picking over" her fellow-men".
I beg leave to add that I
am a peaceful citizen, only
asking a fair representation,
with the rights & Privileges given
to all true women - and hoping
that in due time Gov. will
see fit to grant me something
for my Indemnity to my expenses
Yours Respectfully Yours - G. L. Cook

Sweet Conespartea
- in Holcumb sp.

MNO

1:229;

368.

Oct. 10, 1839

Letter & recommendation from Chas Kilbourn,
Principal of Vernon academy concerning Thomas A
Saylor

OFFICE OF...

Railroad Eating House,
AND
Commercial Hotel.

GEO. WELSH, Prop.

Morton, Minn. Dec 2 1897

Mr. R. J. Holcomb.

St. Paul, Minn

Dear Sir:-

You promised to send me a copy of the "Pioneer Press" containing the interview, but have not received one.

Will you please kindly send me a few copies.

John Warkenton
Big Thunder.

Winona Minn

Apr 9 1898

Col R. I. Holcomb

My dear Colonel

I want one or two
copies of a paper that has
a copy of the Fort Ridgely Monument
& inscriptions - can you get such
for me? or tell me what trail to
strike to get them?

Shall I ever find you again
& where -

Very Truly Yours

B. H. Randall

MILITARY ORDER OF THE
LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY STATE OF MINNESOTA.

GEN. EDWIN C. MASON,
RECORDER.
554 HOLLY AVENUE.

ST. PAUL, MINN. May 7, 1898.

MY DEAR SIR:

In compliance with the request of Companion

D. L. Kiepsbury

I extend to you a cordial invitation to be present at a meeting of the
Minnesota Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion
of the United States, to be held at

the Hotel Ryan, May 10, 1898.

Supper will be served promptly at half-past seven o'clock.

I am, sir, very truly yours,

D. L. Kiepsbury
acting Recorder.

Sunday Evening
May 8th 85

Dear Helen -

The motor car-
riage is all set up now at
the American Hotel + Drick
works, and you can see it to-
morrow or next day.

I shall be there tomorrow
about three o'clock, but if you
come at another time my as-
sistant Mr. Willhouse will
show you everything.

Yours truly

Alb. Russell

May 10th 1885

5 minutes after reading
your letter.

Oklahoma City, O.T.

July 16th, 1898.

Mr. R. L. Holcombe, No. 603 Randolph St.
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Dear Sir: Your very kind letter of the
12 inst. has just been received, and it
is the only letter I have received from you -
the one, with the clipping enclosed, having
never reached me. I shall immediately
make inquiries at the office as to why
they have not delivered the letter at my
mother's house, if it has reached this city.

My husband and myself live on a farm
eleven miles from this place, so we have
our mail delivered at my mother's, where we
can get it once a week when we come to
town.

Please accept the thanks of my mother,
sisters, and myself for kind expressions
of regard for our father and consideration
for ourselves, also for the very kind and
friendly efforts you made to have the brief

sketch of my father's life printed amongst the friends he loved so well.

Had I suspected my manuscript was going to be filed amongst Minnesota's historical papers, I should certainly have spent more time trying to make a clearer copy, so that state would not have been ashamed of one of her daughters, born at St. Paul, but a farmer's wife has little time for literary efforts and her hands get too stiffened to wield a pen successfully, nevertheless I am glad the sketch of father's life is safely filed away.

I expected the charges would be about \$5⁰⁰ as I know that papers with a large circulation, usually charge high; enclosed. Please find said amount which I cheerfully send. You do not tell me what your own charges are; please tell me, so that I can remunerate you for your kindness, and please send me the copies retained so that I can see what was printed.

Do you know the present address of the gentleman who had charge of the horses in

father's company? He was called the farrier, was he not?

When father died he was drawing a pension for gunshot wounds received at Birch Coulee, and for general disability caused by being injured by some of the horses which he was trying to help some of the men of his company break in some way. The injury was received while father was in the service.

At the present time we are having considerably trouble trying to get the pension for mother. The doctor who attended father during his last illness and for several years previous gave a very good certificate to the effect that father's rupture weakened his health and was one of the main causes of his death.

Now the government demands that we should prove that father received the rupture or was ^{thus} injured while in the service. We thought perhaps the farrier would know something about it.

Do you think Mr. James Egaw or Mr. Frank Griswold could help us? Hoping you are not being bothered by us too much.

I will again thank you for your many kindnesses.

Your friend,
Mrs. Anne C. Anderson Green
No. 215 Sixth St.
Oklahoma,
O. F.

Mother says perhaps the rupture was caused by a spent bullet that hit father but she does not know.