



[Return I. Holcombe Papers.](#)

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J. H. Swan

WHO WAS IN COMMAND?

Globe Daily — 23-9-11
A BREEZY ACCOUNT OF THE BIRCH
COOLIE FIGHT.

SOME ONE SURELY BLUNDERED

The Selection of the Camp a Decidedly Doubtful Honor—Details of the Terrible Day and Night When the Indians Were Firing Upon the Camp—Conversation Interrupted by a Bullet—A Dead Man Kneeling All Day.

SIoux CITY, Io., July 19, 1894.—Hon. Charles E. Flandrau: A friend of mine has sent me some clippings from the St. Paul papers on a controversy going on as to who was in command at Birch Coolie. While I do not think it is in good taste or profitable to agitate such questions now, when most of the parties interested have passed away, still, as the fight is on, it naturally interests every one who participated in affairs at that time, and as I was there and somewhat acquainted with the actors at that time, I will give you my recollections of the matter.

I do not remember the dates and have not now access to the papers to refresh my recollection, and while I recognize the fact that my testimony will not settle the question as to who was in command of that expedition, I do not think it worth quarreling over. Whether Maj. Brown or Maj. Grant gave orders as to what was to be done and where to go and where to camp, they showed very poor judgment and camped both nights where the troops were at the mercy of an attacking foe. A little better judgment in selecting a camping ground might have made it more pleasant at Birch Coolie the next day. But to my recollections:

I was first lieutenant of Company I, of the Third Minnesota Infantry, and when sufficiently recovered from a run of typhoid fever to travel, had been sent home on recruiting service and ordered to report to Maj. Nelson at St. Paul. He gave me a furlough and sent me home, where I was when the first rumor of the outbreak was spread. I immediately started for St. Paul to report, expecting there might be work on hand. On the road between Fort Snelling and St. Paul I met Maj. Nelson. He directed me to return to the fort and act as adjutant of the Sixth regiment, which was then assembling, until one was appointed. I did so, and took a small steamboat and went to St. Paul, got some arms and ammunition up to the fort, which were distributed. I accompanied the regiment to Shakopee on the boat, at which place Col. Crooks joined us. We went on to St. Peter, where F. E. Snow joined us as adjutant and superseded me. As I had no orders what to do in such a case, I found myself an officer at leisure. That afternoon a call was made for men to go through to Fort Ridgely to relieve that post. Fearing that if I stayed in St. Peter some order might overtake me, I joined this party and went through to the fort that night. When Gen. Sibley came up with the full force I attached myself to his eating and sleeping department, and as a sort of a "go as you please" officer around his headquarters, and as they were all old friends, I got along comfortably.

The night before the detachment started out that had the fight at Birch Coolie, Gen. Sibley and Maj. Brown had a conversation in the general's tent about the expedition. They talked and I smoked. There were one or two other persons there, but I do not recall

Maj. Brown had told me the camp would be, and came in after sundown. Brown and Galbraith were before me and had got supper. Jack Frazier had just come in and eaten his supper, and was taking his pipe. Dave Redfield was telling a story. (By the way, what has become of him. A braver man and better judge of a horse, dead or alive, was hard to find.) Wash Faribault came in later. I don't remember seeing him, but Brown said he had reported hearing a shot or two in the afternoon, but Brown thought there could be nothing in it, coming from where Faribault was at the time.

We lay down to sleep that night, and just in the gray of dawn the next morning we were unceremoniously aroused by Indian yells, gun shots and whistling bullets. Instantly all was bustle and confusion. The infantry at first tried to fall in line. There was an opening in the corral made with the wagons on the side opposite the coolie. One or two men dashed out through there, and others were starting, but they were met by Maj. Brown, pistol in hand, and stopped; down on the other side of the corral, Capt. Anderson was telling them in a voice loud enough to make the farthest Indian hear, and in a language more forcible than polite, to "lay down," "get under the wagons," and the same order was given by every body, as soon as each one comprehended that that was the proper thing to do. If any one was in command and gave any other order I did not hear it, nor did I want to.

After order was somewhat restored, I came up from the side nearest the coolie, where I had gone very soon after the ball opened, and met Maj. Brown by the side of the square tent. He had been among the horses, and had saddled one so, as he said, if an opportunity offered he could send some one out. While standing there he was shot in the head. He dropped on the guy ropes of the tent, and I caught him and took him into the tent which was then occupied by Dr. Daniels, who had piled knapsacks around the wall, and was taking care of the wounded. Maj. Brown came to his senses in a few minutes, and I remained with him, listening to him, as it was thought then the wound was serious. While I was with him I caught a bullet in my watch with force enough to topple me over. This interrupted the conversation, and when I got reorganized Maj. Brown came partially out of tent and called to one of the lieutenants who was near (I do not know his name, but he was a brave one) to take some men to the side of the corral where there did not appear to be any one, and from which side the Indians were then making a lively fire from the edge of a piece of low land within shooting distance on that side. I went there with the lieutenant and did not see any commander or hear any commands further that day. We got ditches and holes dug, and among dead horses and under wagons the day wore along as days will even when bullets are flying. During the afternoon we saw the relief come in sight and then retire, which caused some uncomplimentary remarks from the impatient ones of our party. Night came on, and I, as well as the rest, found that sitting cramped up in a hole in the ground, with every sense alert to discover something on the outside, while on the inside the prayers and ravings of the wounded, burning with fever, were ringing in our ears, was not a pleasant way of spending the night. I changed work with the man next to me, and got a short nap or two; and in the morning, aside from the fact of an unpleasant and constant conviction that it had been "a long time between drinks," I felt very well. But few of the casualties had occurred after we got settled down among the horses and in ditches, and we had concluded the Indians were not coming after us on the run, and in the morning we learned from the Indians themselves that relief was at hand. It reached us in the forenoon, and with it drink.

"As I said in the start, I have no positive knowledge as to who was in command. I supposed Maj. Brown was, and had no idea anyone else claimed to be. I know whoever was in command had blundered and blamed Maj. Brown. Perhaps I wronged him."

L. Harry
J. Gilman
Sec. Connolly
Letter in
Globe
July 30.

them, though. I came in during the time. I can't give the conversations, but it was understood that the next morning Maj. Brown should start out with a detail of infantry and such mounted men as Capt. Anderson had with him, and go to the lower agency and as much farther as Brown thought proper, to be gone not more than three days. There was to be a burial party also, and the party were to search for and bury any dead found. This, and to ascertain how matters stood at the agency and to scout the country around, was the object of the expedition. I joined the party, though I did not ask any one's permission further than to tell Maj. Brown I was going, and to suggest that I should not be left out in the count for rations. The detail was made, consisting of one company of infantry of the Sixth regiment (Capt Grant's), and two men from each of the other companies of the Sixth regiment, Capt. Anderson and some mounted men—I do not know the number. The next forenoon we started from Fort Ridgley. With the party were several civilians, most of whom returned from the lower agency. I do not know who directed the course, or selected the camping ground, for myself and one or two others were ranging around and got beyond the camp, and did not get in until about dark. About the same time that I came in, Washington Faribault and Jack Frazier came in from other directions. We all went to Maj. Brown, who was sitting on a sack of grain laid on a wagon tongue. He questioned me closely as to which way we had been, and as to whether we had seen any Indian signs. Jack Frazier grunted out some dissatisfaction at the camping place, and I think if you ask Jack about it you will find that he found a bed in a bunch of willows two or three hundred yards from camp, nearer the river and to the left of the road.

The next morning we marched down to the river at the old ferry crossing; the soldiers who had been killed there at the outbreak were buried, and the mounted men and several civilians then crossed the river, which was just deep enough to take the smaller horses off their feet for a few yards. We went up to the agency, buried some dead there, and went on to Little Crow village. We stayed there awhile looking for caches of plunder, and I think found and opened one or two. While there Maj. Brown, Maj. Calbraith, the Indian agent and myself concluded to follow the trail up farther. Before starting Maj. Brown told Capt. Anderson where we were going, and directed him as to his movements so as to join the infantry for camp that night. We followed the trail of the Indians on leaving, which kept the old Yellow Medicine trail, until we were satisfied they had kept the river trail and had not gone off on the prairies. We then turned and went down on the river bottom, and as we saw no sign, we found a favorable place where we could rest and watch, and unsaddled our horses and let them cool and feed, while we took a lunch of wild plums. We then saddled up, went down to and crossed the river, then went to Beaver creek, which we followed a short distance, and went out on the prairie. I stopped at a deserted cabin, and Maj. Brown and Galbraith went on. I soon after followed, skirting along the popple thicket for a mile or so, and then struck across to where

he knew where he had been all day, but thought that with his knowledge of Indians, he ought to have changed the place when he came in. There is no glory to be reaped by being the commander of that expedition, and I should sooner have expected that the controversy would have been to force it on the other. Of the bravery and coolness of the men, soldiers, civilians and teamsters, there can be no question; each was a hero, and it is a graceful thing for the state to erect a monument over the graves of their fallen comrades. The credit and glory belong to the men. Capt. Anderson's stentorian voice and forcible language, raised instantly when the attack was made, did more than anything else to put the men in safe positions. It gave the cue to the style of the party in defending, and an occasional pet name he gave during the day to some one he thought was shooting too often was a constant reminder to us to practice economy with our powder and balls.

Jack Frazier set the pace digging holes, and very soon after the row began he was loosening up the dirt with his knife and throwing it out with his tin plate, while he held his gun in his other hand, and kept watch on the outside. Once I saw him spring to his feet, and bringing his gun to his shoulder, fire into some weeds growing on a gopher mound. It brought a yell, and an Indian rolled rapidly away for a short distance, and then sprang up and ran, while Jack went on with his digging. He had quite a comfortable nest by the time the rest of us got fairly started with the shovels, which could not be worked to advantage starting a hole while lying down.

It was a busy day with us. The sad, pathetic, terrible and humorous were with us for our entertainment, and numerous were the experiences of each which will never be forgotten. As I lay behind the wagon where I had taken position, four wagons to the left of me a man by the name of Holbrook, from my own county, was kneeling beside the forewheels of a wagon, and looking out and occasionally firing as coolly and calmly as though shooting at a mark. Being an acquaintance, I noticed him particularly. Looking at him later, I noticed he was leaning closer to the wheel, and his gun was before him, the barrel against the wheel and the stock on the ground. I thought he had gotten closer to the wheel as a safer position, as he appeared to be watching. Later he was in the same position. Then I saw that he was dead. He remained kneeling there all day. Four wagons to the right of me was a big German who lived up near Henderson. He had gotten himself ensconced under his wagon, with his feed and other things in the wagon around him, then with pieces of harness and his whiffle-trees he had a plan by which, when he pulled the strap, a hat and coat would come in view. This would draw a sharp fire, and the Dutchman would get in one in return. His jolly laugh at the success of his scheme was infectious, and helped to pass away the time.

As my memory goes back over the occurrences of the day, I should tire you to relate them; I have perhaps already.

J. H. SWAN.

"Michilimackinac."

(In 1820.)

The climax of contrast is in 1894. Visit this famous resort on one of the Soo Line excursions leaving St. Paul and Minneapolis Tuesdays and Fridays. Very low rate.

For further information call at 127 Third street south, Minneapolis, or 308 Robert street, St. Paul.

Good for Bad.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

"Two expert card-sharpers overreached themselves badly last week," said John C. Simonds, of New York. "When we left New York a friend who

May 14 - 1908

SAVED WHITE GIRL IN MASSACRE.

DEATH OF MRS. MAGGIE BRASS RECALLS TOUCHING INCIDENT OF THE SIOUX UPRISING.

Mrs. Mary E. Schmidt, of Randolph street, recently received information of the death, at Santee agency, Neb., April 25, of her foster Indian mother, Mrs. Maggie Brass, a Sioux Indian woman, residing near the agency. Mrs. Brass was a remarkable woman and a somewhat prominent character in Minnesota history, and well known to all of the Indians of her band and to many whites among the early settlers. She was born at Mendota in 1839 and was a member of Little Crow's Kaposia band. Her Indian name was Snah-nah-win, or Tinkling Woman. Her mother was named Wam-nu-ka-win, in translation, Bead Woman, a niece of the noted Makh-pea-ho-to-win, or Gray Cloud woman, for whom the island in the Mississippi, below St. Paul, was named. Suah-nah was educated both in Sioux and in English at Dr. Williamson's Indian school at Kaposia, where the stock yards now are. She could read and write English very well and spoke it fluently. She became a Christian at the age of twelve, and was baptized with the new name of Margaret. The whites commonly called her Maggie, but the Indians knew her as Suah-nah.

When she was nearly fifteen years old, or in 1853, Suah-nah married a fine young warrior called Good Thunder. The same year her band removed from Kaposia to the reservation, provided by the treaties of 1851, on the south side of the Minnesota river, and the home of Mr. and Mrs. Good Thunder was opposite the present site of the village of Morton. They both became members of the Episcopal church, and Maggie was a very devout church-woman. They lived in a comfortable house, cultivated the soil, and dressed like white people, and followed the white customs.

When the great Sioux outbreak of 1862 occurred Good Thunder was swept into participation in it for a time on the side of his people, but he soon joined the peace faction and signed letters to Sibley, protesting his friendship for the whites and his desire for peace. Maggie, his wife, was always loyal. She fairly distinguished herself by purchasing from her captors a young and pret-



THE RESCUER AND THE RESCUED
Mrs. Maggie Brass (Snah-Nah-Win) and Mrs. Mary E. Schmidt.
The photograph was taken in 1900.



SNAH-NAH-WIN IN HER YOUTH

ty German girl of fifteen, named Mary E. Schwandt (now the Mrs. Schmidt mentioned) and in protecting and caring for her for six weeks until she was delivered to Gen. Sibley's army at Camp Release. Except a younger brother, who was badly wounded and left for dead, Miss Schwandt's family all perished in the terrible Indian massacre. She was adopted by the Indian woman as a daughter and so saved from the ill fate of so many other prisoners in the hands of the savages.

More than thirty years after the outbreak the Indian woman—whose name, by a remarriage, was now Mrs. Maggie Brass—visited her foster daughter, now Mrs. William Schmidt—at the latter's home in St. Paul. She made other visits from time to time to the city, and was here last fall, while a delegate to the Episcopal convention at Minneapolis. There was, of course, a strong attachment between the white woman and the Indian matron, and they enjoyed each other's company most fond-

ly. For her services in behalf of the helpless orphaned girl in her time of great peril Mrs. Brass, or Snah-nah-win, will have her name cherished on the "good Indian monument" at Morton, Minn., an imposing granite structure erected by the Minnesota Valley Historical society a few years since. This structure commemorates the services of the Indians who were truly loyal to the whites during the entire outbreak and who saved at least one white life. There are only four names upon it now; Mrs. Brass' will be the fifth; by the rule it could not be inscribed until after her death.

Mrs. Brass died in comfortable circumstances. She was intelligent and prudent, owned considerable real estate and other property, which she managed well. She left one son, now a sergeant in the artillery branch of the regular army, and two foster daughters. She died suddenly and was buried at Santee.

ST 23, 1908. ★

Called After Forty-six Years

Massacre.



PATTERSON WRITES BOOK

Wealthy Young Socialist Produces Work That Pretends to Go to Bottom of Social Evil.

IS BITTER ATTACK ON SOCIETY WOMEN

Universal Immorality Charged by Author—Scenes Are Sensational and Worse Than Melodramatic.

CHICAGO, Aug. 23.—Why men prefer to sit in the bald-headed row and see chorus girls in tights rather than to have them sell hardware to their wives is the basis of a novel, "The Little Brother of the Rich," by Joseph Medill Patterson, just published by Reilly Britton.

Coupled with the chorus girl dissertation and a socialistic lecture regarding the temptations of shop girls in Chicago, Mr. Patterson in his novel makes a bitter attack on New York society women, practically charging universal immorality.

At least, in "The Little Brother of the Rich" only one of the women characters, Sylvia, the heroine, makes any claim to purity, and even she, consumed by an overpowering love for a young New York broker, Paul Potter, the hero, agrees to become his mistress, but is saved from falling when she discovers, after the sudden death of his wife, while drunk with another man, that he never intended to right her in the sight of the world by marriage.

Scenes Are Sensational.

Mr. Patterson's novel is filled with sporty young society men, with women of the aristocracy who sell themselves for wealthy husbands, and with scenes where the husband returns home unexpectedly and finds a friend in his wife's apartment at midnight, and it tells of a husband's learning of the death of his wife when he is on a drunken carousal with his business partner.

The titles of two of the chapters, "The Oldest Profession," and "The Uses of a Lady," establish the tone of the book.

The hero, Potter, and several girls are at dinner, and this lecture on chorus girls by a man called Blanche takes place.

GATHER WHERE SIOUX FOUGHT

Defense of Fort Ridgely Celebrated in Furtherance of National Park Project.

HORRORS OF MASSACRE ARE RECALLED VIVIDLY

Mr. Jacobson, the Next Governor, and Congressman Volstead Speak, and Militia Reproduce Battle.

By Henry B. Curry.

AIRFAX, Minn., Aug. 23.—Standing beside a fragment of the stone wall behind which 180 soldiers and settlers repulsed Little Crow and 1,000 Sioux Indians forty-six years ago yesterday, Mrs. Minnie Bruce Carrigan, a survivor of the greatest massacre in the history of the American redmen, said yesterday afternoon:

"Just then the Indians came whooping and yelling toward our house. We had a little farm a few miles northwest of the fort. My father ran out and begged the leader of the Indians to spare us. They could have everything they wanted, father said, if only we could live.

"The Indian laughed.

"Sioux chief bad," he answered, pointing to his double-barreled shotgun.

Babe's Appeal Useless.

"Father turned and picked up our baby, my tiny sister Bertha, three months old. Maybe he thought this might make the Indian hesitate. Bertha always liked the feathers and head-dresses that our Sioux visitors wore. Bertha stretched out both hands towards the Indian with the gun and cooed at him. He simply raised the gun, took aim calmly at father and the baby and fired. Father dropped the baby. She was killed instantly and he fell on his face.

"The same Indian then went to where my mother had sat down upon a stone with little Caroline, two years old, in her lap. He slowly loaded his gun and fired at them from a distance of three feet. Mother made no sound at all, but fell over dead. Caroline, as she dropped from mother's arms, gave a sharp, little scream, and then gasped once or twice.

"For years afterwards when I'd wake up at night I could hear that scream. I ran up, looked at father and saw the back of his shirt red with his blood, before I fainted. Though I was only eight years old then, I can remember hearing a bird sing in a tree near by. It was a beautiful day, too. The sky was perfectly clear."

Bunker Hill of the Northwest.

Yesterday, forty-six years after, it was again a clear and beautiful day as when these babes were butchered, and at the site of old Fort Ridgely, the successful defense of which against "braves" to whom war meant ruthless massacre, prevented the extermination of the whites

Mr. Patterson's novel is filled with sports young society men, with women of the aristocracy who sell themselves for wealthy husbands, and with scenes where the husband returns home unexpectedly and finds a friend in his wife's apartment at midnight; and it tells of a husband's learning of the death of his wife when he is on a drunken carousal with his business partner.

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Since it was at Fort Ridgely that on the last day of the fight, Aug. 22, 1862, the course of the Sioux war was turned in favor of the whites, and since it was there and then that was maintained a defense memorable for the gallantry of both men and women, the Fort Ridgely National Park association arranged the commemorative exercises of yesterday in order to remind the Northwest of the real nature of the defense and secure from state or federal authorities assistance in creating a Fort Ridgely park.

The secretary of the association, C. H. Hopkins, of Fairfax, assumed the chief burden of arranging the celebration and won the greatest credit for its success.

Marooned at Fairfax.

The exercises were held a short distance east of the fort site, seven miles south of Fairfax. Threatening rain Friday night kept away several companies of national guardsmen about to start from neighboring towns, but the brilliant morning and the promising program brought so many visitors from all the countryside that many arrivals by train, including Dar Hall, of Buffalo, and T. S. S. Smith, of Morton, were "marooned" several hours at Fairfax for lack of transit southward. Even an automobile was lacking.

Renville county, prosperous and progressive, has long ago ceased to depend upon the "democrat" wagon. If you are a modest farmer hereabouts, you have your carriage and pair. If you are a substantial citizen of Fairfax, you have at least a runabout motor. Strictly leading citizens like E. F. Sell, host for many of the distinguished guests today, support a couple of touring cars.

Fort Material in Stable.

At the actual site of the old fort only the granite blocks forming one end of the commissary building still remain in place, and they have been transformed into a stable. Corn stalks seven feet high now make unfamiliar to survivors the spot where Little Crow, charging in a sudden fit of un-Indian boldness at the head of his thousand braves upon the spot where he expected to break through, found the opening closed with a field piece and cried out angrily: "They have shut the door."

But where rose the flagstaff in the center of the parade ground rises now the granite monument erected by the state twelve years ago, "in memory of the fallen, in recognition of the living, and for the emulation of future generations." It bears the names of members of the Renville Rangers, the Fifth The "armed citizens" who, under the command of Lieut. Timothy J. Sheehan and assisted by many brave women whose names also are recorded, fought back from five to ten times as many

The Independent

MADISON, LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY, MINNESOTA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1905

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure

The only Baking Powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar

NO ALUM, NO LIME PHOSPHATE

She was Captured by the Indians.

Mrs. Mary Schwandt Schmidt, of St. Paul, who was an Indian captive during the Little Crow war of 1862, and who was here at the recent homecoming of the pioneers, tells the following story of her captivity:

Forty-nine years ago when I was dragged through this country as a wretched prisoner it was nothing but one great wilderness that few white men had ever trod, and now what do you see? Fine and beautiful farms everywhere. Cities and towns have sprung up and there is no fairer state in the Union than our beautiful Minnesota with its fertile soil, its woods and lakes and its hills and valleys, so when this land of milk and honey was opened to settlement by our government the people began to come in great numbers and took up land. A great many settled in Brown and Renville counties in 1861 and 1862. My father lived in Wisconsin, Fond du Lac county, with his family consisting of father, mother and five children (making eight altogether). We started for Minnesota in the spring of 1862, in the month of May, with two ox teams. We had some cows and calves and it took us five weeks to make the journey, for oxen do not travel very fast, but the journey was a delightful one, at least to children. We walked very near the whole distance, driving the stock and picking wild flowers by the wayside that grew so plentifully in the spring of the year, and when we would come to a good camping place with plenty of grass and water, we would stop and rest and my dear mother would cook the meal and it would taste so good—but we finally came to our destination, father and my brother-in-law finding some nice land in Renville county on Middle Creek Town Flora, and they each took a piece. The first thing, of course, was to build a house. They built a log house and all lived together and were all very happy. Father brought about seven or eight hundred dollars in gold with him and I did not want for anything. The

Mary Anderson and myself and three men who had stopped over night, got into a two-horse wagon and took to the open prairie, but never driving into the roads for Mr. Moore said the roads were not safe, so we drove from early morning until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon when we got about eight miles west of New Ulm and the men thought that it was perfectly safe to drive into the road. We had gone about a mile and a half when, behold, we saw in the distance a body of men and horses coming toward us, and the men, thinking that they were a lot of white men out recruiting, for it was at the time of the civil war, drove into the regular traveled road. This big body was moving toward us and they had brass instruments which we saw glisten in the sun, but when this large body of moving men got close enough so that we could see what it was, behold, there were fifty or more Indians, all naked and painted in their war paint and hooting and yelling and blowing those horns until you would think bedlam had broken loose. When we saw what we had run into we all jumped and ran and the Indians by this time were close upon us and began to shoot, killing all the men right then and there. But we did not run very far. The Indians ran after us and caught us and brought us back to the wagon. Mary Anderson was shot through the abdomen and died four days after from the wound, while my clothes showed many bullet holes, although I received no wounds. I have one skirt to this day that has seven holes in it where the bullets went through. Miss Williams was not hurt. Miss Williams was a highly cultured young lady from the east and was on a visit to her uncle, Mr. Reynolds. She was 22 or 23 years old and was a beautiful young lady and went through much suffering. Miss Anderson was a pretty Swede girl of 19 or 20 and was to have been married in another month or two but God willed it otherwise. And myself, I was only a plain little German girl of 14 years and didn't know

not hurt so much, so she took a knife and made an incision and the ball fell out on the floor and a bunch of grass they had wadded the gun with also came out of the wound. Wacouta said he could not save us but would try if we would go up in the attic and stay there until he should tell us we might come down, so we stayed up there four days and three nights, but Wacouta never came near us. We could not stand up but could only kneel and the dust was an inch thick on the floor, so we laid the sick girl on the floor and nursed her as best we could, she getting sicker all the time and wanting water, but we had none. The second night Miss Williams and myself crawled to a corn field forty rods distant and got some of the corn and gave it to her and she sucked the juice, for she had a raging fever. I am sure that Miss Williams and myself could have gotten away in the night, but we would not leave Mary to die alone, so we stayed with her to the end. On the fourth day in the evening, the Indians came with wagons and made us come down. Poor Mary could not walk, so they dragged her down and put her in a wagon. The wagon I was ordered onto was full of dead hogs. I sat on one of them. It was hot. They had just been shot not dressed. So we started for Little Crow's camp or village, about four miles away. After getting there we were ordered into a tepee. We laid poor Mary on the ground and a squaw brought us some hot tea and we sat down on the ground by Mary and drank it and it was so good, for we had had nothing in three days, only a few ears of corn which we got in the night time while in Wacouta's house. We sat by Mary all night and eased her last moments as best we could, and oh, what a long night it seemed! But when the morning dawned death relieved poor Mary from all her suffering. Miss Williams, the good angel that she was, offered a prayer and I said my little German prayer that I said every night before going to sleep, and I know that when her spirit crossed the dark valley the angels were there to meet it. The Indians then took the body and wrapped a red table cloth around it and dug a hole and put the body in it. After all was over Miss Williams' captor came and took her away to his tepee where he lived with his squaw, and my captor, not having a tepee nor a squaw, wanted to kill me for he said I was no earthly good to him, for he had no place to put me and I was too small to work, so when they were going to take a young white girl out and kill her, she came and looked me over and must have been pleased with my looks, for in a short

river. I can't did camp, by the Minnesota never stay I seemed to be ing further place where many cruel were beginn had done an would end f just whatev told me to her in all t tate her w Rome, do a many funny with them felt so sad, many a hea tion all the would take and besides the last car Release. Of about a we were relea and his ar joy and g away, from worst was were told and no par consin to m my, younge The Indian head and l came to a tall grass. for days he geley and consin who left of a fa ing four y back to St I married have lived py wife an Sanna, born in 18 educated and could lish langu er speak She was and had with her, squaw in I thought Christian small pra and woul one, woul years ago

ment the people began to come in great numbers and took up land. A great many settled in Brown and Renville counties in 1861 and 1862. My father lived in Wisconsin, Fond du Lac county, with his family consisting of father, mother and five children making eight altogether. We started for Minnesota in the spring of 1862, in the month of May, with two ox teams. We had some cows and calves and it took us five weeks to make the journey, for oxen do not travel very fast, but the journey was a delightful one, at least to children. We walked very near the whole distance, driving the stock and picking wild flowers by the wayside that grew so plentifully in the spring of the year, and when we would come to a good camping place with plenty of grass and water, we would stop and rest and my dear mother would cook the meal and it would taste so good—but we finally came to our destination, father and my brother-in-law finding some nice land in Renville county on Middle Creek Town Flora, and they each took a piece. The first thing, of course, was to build a house. They built a log house and all lived together and were all very happy. Father brought about seven or eight hundred dollars in gold with him and we did not want for anything. The only thing that bothered us was the Indians. They came every day begging for something to eat, but we always gave and they seemed very friendly. After being there about a month I begged my mother to let me go over the river to help Mrs. Reynolds out until she could get a girl to do her work; she kept a stopping place where people got meals and stopped over night. My mother did not like to have me go, but I teased until she gave in. I could not do very much work but I could run errands and Mrs. R. had a larger girl who did the work and the cooking. They were all very good to me and I liked it very much at this place. I saw many Indians there and was awfully afraid of them at first but I finally got used to them. Shakopee's band lived right there near where Redwood Falls now stands. There I saw many dead Indians wrapped up in rags and laid over poles to dry and when the wind would lift the rags you could see the white bones, and the skulls would seem to grin at you and it now seems as though they said "We know what is coming and are glad of it."

And so at last the 18th day of August, 1862, dawned, the sun coming up in the east in all its wonderful splendor and glory. What a mockery it was on this day of carnage and bloodshed. I can never forget that day! It was a most beautiful summer day. We got up and went about our work as usual, when about 7 o'clock a friendly half breed, John Moore, came to Mr. Reynolds' house and told us all to hurry and get away as fast as we could for the Indians were killing all the whites wherever they could find them, so Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds got into a buggy and drove away and Miss Williams and

this large body of moving close enough so that we could see what it was, behold, there were fifty or more Indians, all naked and painted in their war paint and hooting and yelling and blowing those horns until you would think bedlam had broken loose. When we saw what we had run into we all jumped and ran and the Indians by this time were close upon us and began to shoot, killing all the men right then and there. But we did not run very far. The Indians ran after us and caught us and brought us back to the wagon. Mary Anderson was shot through the abdomen and died four days after from the wound, while my clothes showed many bullet holes although I received no wounds. I have one skirt to this day that has seven holes in it where the bullets went through. Miss Williams was not hurt. Miss Williams was a highly cultured young lady from the east and was on a visit to her uncle, Mr. Reynolds. She was 22 or 23 years old and was a beautiful young lady and went through much suffering. Miss Anderson was a pretty Swede girl of 19 or 20 and was to have been married in another month or two but God willed it otherwise. And myself, I was only a plain little German girl of 14 years and didn't know much of anything, always having lived right with my parents. I did not know much about wickedness such as I was compelled to witness with these cruel and wicked savages. While we girls were being brought back to the wagons they were just killing the men that were in our party and cutting off their scalps. They had many other scalps strung around their waists and the blood was still dripping from them. There was a negro among them, Godfrey by name, who had eight or nine watches strung around his waist and they were all ticking and it was just 4 o'clock. I shall never forget the time to my dying day for he said "I have killed all the owners of these watches and it was great fun." He seemed to think what a brave man he was—the dastardly coward. So we were ordered to get onto the wagons. The other two girls on another wagon and I on the one with the negro, Godfrey, so that when we came to Wacouta's house it was very dark and Godfrey said I must get off the wagon and go into the house, that I would find the other girls in the house, but I was afraid for it was swarming with Indians all around, so when they jerked me from the wagon and I screamed, for I was almost crazy with fright, having witnessed them kill those men. A few hours before one of those savage brutes had hit me in the mouth and knocked all of my teeth loose and sent the blood gushing from my mouth. Just as I began to think that my last moment had come the door opened and Chief Wacouta came and took me away and took me into the house and sure enough the girls were both inside, poor Mary Anderson crying because she was shot and saying if only the bullet was out of the wound she knew it would

and a squaw brought us some hot tea and we sat down on the ground by Mary and drank it and it was so good, for we had had nothing in three days, only a few ears of corn which we got in the night time while in Wacouta's house. We sat by Mary all night and eased her last moments as best we could, and oh, what a long night it seemed! But when the morning dawned death relieved poor Mary from all her suffering. Miss Williams, the good angel that she was, offered a prayer and I said my little German prayer that I said every night before going to sleep, and I know that when her spirit crossed the dark valley the angels were there to meet it. The Indians then took the body and wrapped a red table cloth around it and dug a hole and put the body in it. After all was over Miss Williams' captor came and took her away to his tepee where he lived with his squaw, and my captor, not having a tepee nor a squaw, wanted to kill me for he said I was no earthly good to him, for he had no place to put me and I was too small to work, so when they were going to take a young white girl out and kill her, she came and looked me over and must have been pleased with my looks, for in a short time she came back leading a white pony and saying something to the Indian, that claimed me, he taking the pony from her, thinking, perhaps, he had the best of the bargain, and she, taking me by the hand, led me to her tepee. After taking me inside and telling me to sit down she spoke for the first time to me, and her speech being in English, was a surprise to me. She said, "I bought you from that bad man and gave my only pony for you and you are going to be my daughter and you must call me Mamma, now, for I am always going to keep you as my own child." When she said that I began to cry as if my heart was breaking for I could not give up my own darling mother for this Indian woman, not knowing then that she was already sleeping her fast sleep not many miles away, but my Indian mother, as I must now call her, took me in hand and soon made out of the German girl a genuine Indian maiden. First she soaked my hair with tallow to make it look nice and glossy and I had two braids hanging down my back. Then she put a bright loose sack made of bright red calico on me. Then came the woolen skirt made of squaw cloth with green border and the prettiest moccasins, beaded all over, for Snana was an expert in bead work. The seven weeks I was with the Indians I never left my Indian mother's side but once and then I was very near killed. At night I would always sleep at her side, then came her two papooses, then came Mr. Good Thunder then a little further away came old Barley Corn and her half-breed daughter. That was the whole family. After staying at Little Crow's village about two weeks, we broke up camp and moved further up the

left of a family of eight living four years in Wisconsin back to St. Paul, Minnesota. I married William F. Sch... have lived here many years my wife and mother. Sanna, my Indian mother born in 1839 near Mendota, educated by the early missionaries and could speak and read English language well, but never speak it when she could. She was married to Good Thunder and had two children with her. She was the Indian squaw in the whole tribe I thought so. She was a Christian woman, she had a small prayer book in her hand and would often read it and one would see her. She died years ago at Santee, Ne...

Independent

MADISON, LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY, MINNESOTA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1911.

ROYAL
IG POWDER
absolutely Pure
Baking Powder made
Grape Cream of Tartar
M, NO LIME PHOSPHATE

Indians.

Schmidt, of Indian cap-war of at the re-pioneers, of her when I was untry as a as nothing s that few and now and beau-Cities and nd there is Union than a with its l lakes and when this was open-er govern-to come in k up land. Brown and 1 and 1862. consin, Fon family con-er and five altogether. ota in the nth of May, e had some ook us five hey, for ox-ast, but the ful one, at lked very ce, driving wild flowers ew so plen-f the year, ne to a good ty of grass op and rest ould cook d taster so ame to our y brothe-e nice land dle Creek each took a , of course. They built ed together py. Father r eight hun-

Mary Anderson and myself and three men who had stopped over night, got into a two-horse wagon and took to the open prairie, but never driving into the roads for Mr. Moore said the roads were not safe, so we drove from early morning until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon when we got about eight miles west of New Ulm and the men thought that it was perfectly safe to drive into the road. We had gone about a mile and a half when, behold, we saw in the distance a body of men and horses coming toward us, and the men, thinking that they were a lot of white men out recruiting, for it was at the time of the civil war, drove into the regular traveled road. This big body was moving toward us and they had brass instruments which we saw glisten in the sun, but when this large body of moving men got close enough so that we could see what it was, behold, there were fifty or more Indians, all naked and painted in their war paint and hooting and yelling and blowing those horns until you would think bedlam had broken loose. When we saw what we had run into we all jumped and ran and the Indians by this time were close upon us and began to shoot, killing all the men right then and there. But we did not run very far. The Indians ran after us and caught us and brought us back to the wagon. Mary Anderson was shot through the abdomen and died four days after from the wound, while my clothes showed many bullet holes although I received no wounds. I have one skirt to this day that has seven holes in it where the bullets went through. Miss Williams was not hurt. Miss Williams was a highly cultured young lady from the east and was on a visit to her uncle, Mr. Reynolds. She was 22 or 23 years old and was a beautiful young lady and went through much suffering. Miss Anderson was a pretty Swede girl of 19 or 20 and was to have been married in another month or two but God willed it otherwise. And myself,

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river. I cannot tell now where we did camp, but it was always near the Minnesota river. They would never stay long at one place, they seemed to be restless, always going further and further from the place where they committed so many cruel deeds. I think that they were beginning to see what they had done and were not sure how it would end for them. I always done just whatever my Indian mother told me to do and tried to please her in all things and tried to imitate her ways, thinking when in Rome, do as the Romans do. I saw many funny things while I was with them and had I not always felt so sad I would have enjoyed many a hearty laugh. I cannot mention all the funny things I saw, it would take too long to read this and besides it might weary you, so the last camp we made was Camp Release. Of course we stayed there about a week and a half, when we were released by General Sibley and his army. Oh, what a day of joy and gladness it was to get away from those savages, but the worst was yet to come when we were told that we had no home and no parents. I was sent to Wisconsin to my friends and there met my younger brother, 10 years old. The Indians had hit him on the head and left him for dead, but he came to and crawled away in the tall grass. After wandering around for days he finally got to Ft. Ridgely and then was sent to Wisconsin where we met, the only two left of a family of eight. After living four years in Wisconsin I came back to St. Paul, Minnesota, where I married William F. Schmidt and have lived here many years a happy wife and mother.

Sanna, my Indian mother was born in 1839 near Mendota and was educated by the early missionaries and could speak and read the English language well, but would never speak it when she could help it. She was married to Good Thunder and had two children when I was with her. She was the handsomest squaw in the whole tribe, at least I thought so. She was a good Christian woman, she carried a small prayer book in her bosom and would often read it when no one would see her. She died three years ago at Santee, Nebraska.

HOW THE FORT WAS BUILT.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF OLD FORT RIDGLEY.

Gen. Sibley, Then Delegate in Congress from the Territory of Minnesota, Suggested Its Erection—Gen. Winfield Scott Approved the Idea—Some of the Officers Stationed There Became Prominent in the Struggle of the Rebellion—Capt. Armistead's Pluck.

It is not improbable that the Fort Ridgley monument will be erected this fall. The commissioners have acquired the site, five acres, and a meeting will soon be called to consider the letting of the contract for the construction of the memorial shaft. The monument will not only commemorate the valor of Minnesotians, but it will preserve the site of one of the most historic localities in the state. Decades hence it will be visited by the sight-seeing and patriotic, and every feature carefully noted and every point critically examined and regarded. A brief sketch of the historic old post, once a most noted landmark and the place where Lieut. Sheehan and his 162 brave comrades won imperishable honor, is of more than ordinary interest.

Gen. H. H. Sibley originated the idea of the establishment of Fort Ridgley. By the treaties of 1851, ratified by the United States senate in 1852, the Sioux Indians of Minnesota were restricted to a reservation twenty miles wide—ten miles on either side of the Minnesota river—and extending from Little Rock creek, in the western part of the Nicollet county, to the western part of the then territory. Gen. Sibley was then the delegate in congress from

made by the treaties upon the Minnesota river, but which reservation was stricken out by the senate. In the vicinity of that line wood for building and other purposes is abundant, while the position is central and can be reached by steamers when the water is high, thus rendering the transportation of supplies for the troops easy and cheap.

If, upon a matured examination of the subject, you should arrive at the conclusion to recommend to the secretary of war the establishment of a post in the region I have so frequently referred to, I would respectfully request, in addition, that you will state to the secretary that the most prompt and speedy measures are necessary to be taken to prepare for the construction of the required buildings in anticipation of the removal of the Indians.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

—H. H. Sibley.

We concur with Mr. Sibley fully in his views expressed in this communication. H. C. Dodge (senator from Wisconsin); A. C. Dodge (senator from Iowa); James Duane Doty, Thompson Campbell, Ben C. Eastman (M. C. from Wisconsin).

Gen. Sibley's letter was endorsed as follows:

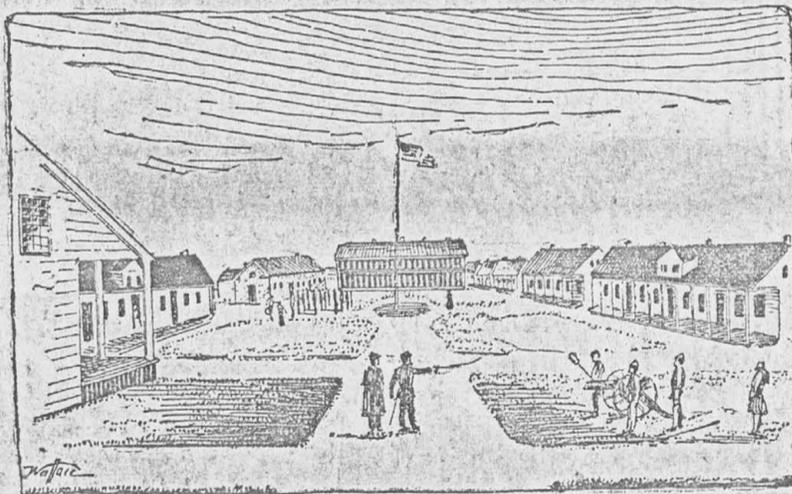
"Concurred in and recommended for the approval of the secretary of war, the new work to commence next spring, under the orders of Gen. Clarke. —Winfield Scott."

"Approved: C. M. Conrad, Secretary of War, April 28, 1852."

The Site Selected.

In the fall of 1852 Capt. Napoleon J. T. Dana, then of the quartermaster's department—subsequently well known to Minnesotians and in the history of the country, now of the pension office—and Col. Francis Lea, then stationed at Fort Snelling, were ordered to select a suitable site for the military post "on the St. Peters river, above the mouth of the Blue Earth." In the latter part of November, with an escort of dragoons from Fort Snelling, and after a three days' march in the snow, the two officers reached Laframboise's trading post, on the Minnesota, at the Little Rock ("Petit Roche," or "headquarters of distress," as Laframboise was wont to call it), about 100 miles west of St. Paul.

About five miles above Little Rock, on the crest of the high north bluff overlooking the river, and the little intervening valley,



FORT RIDGLEY IN 1864.

Minnesota Territory, and he at once saw the necessity of a military post in or near the new Indian reservation. Gen. Winfield Scott then commanded the brigade of 80 of soldiers composing the American army, and to him and the secretary of war Delegate Sibley made known his views. Gen. Scott was impressed with the ideas of the delegate and asked him to put them in writing in a formal communication. A few days later Sibley sent the following letter to Gen. Scott:

Sibley to Scott.

House of Representatives, Washington, July 12, 1852.—Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott, General-in-Chief U. S. A.—Sir: I had the honor a few days since to state in a brief interview with you that I had brought to the notice of the honorable secretary of war the importance, and indeed necessity, of the speedy establishment of a military post at some convenient and eligible site on the upper Minnesota river, and that I had been referred to you by that gentleman for your decision in the case. In compliance with your suggestions, I now beg leave to call your attention to the matter in a written communication.

By the terms of the treaties lately ratified by the senate, the region lying west of the Mississippi within the limits of Minnesota territory, below the line of the Winnebago country, has been ceded to the government, and the Sioux Indians, parties to the treaties, are to be removed to the headwaters of the Minnesota river. The concentration of these powerful bands and their removal from the region now occupied by them requires a corresponding change in the disposition of the military forces in that quarter. Fort Snelling, being in the neighborhood of the principal settlements in the territory, will in no case hereafter need to be garrisoned by more than a single company of men. As a general depot for arms and provisions it may be requisite to keep up the post for some time to come; but as a defensive work, against Indian aggressions, it is no longer valuable. Fort

the site was fixed. The selection was largely influenced by the existence of a large spring of pure water, half way down the bluff, and by the easy access to a good landing on the river. It was a good place for a military establishment simply, but a very poor location for a fortress liable to attack, for the site of the fort proper was flanked within gunshot on the east and west by two large and deep ravines, into which a large assailing force might approach and shelter itself and fire upon the garrison. The river bluff on the south also afforded approach and shelter to an assailing force, so that the fort might easily be attacked on three sides.

In March, 1853, Gen. N. S. Clarke, then in command of the department of the Northwest, with headquarters at Jefferson Barracks, was ordered to proceed to the building of "the new post on the Minnesota," and another new post in Kansas subsequently called Fort Riley. At the same time Fort Dodge, in Iowa, and Fort Scott, in Kansas, were ordered to be abandoned and "broken up." Companies C, K and E, of the Sixth infantry, were ordered by Gen. Clarke to the new post in Minnesota. Company E was then at Fort Dodge, and marched across the country, through forests and over prairies to the new quarters. Companies C, Lieut. John C. Kelton, and K, Capt. James Monroe, Jr., were at Snelling, and went up in a steambot, the West Newton.

The Minnesota was very high, overflowing, in fact, and the steamer landed near the foot of the bluff where the fort was to be built, on the evening of April 30, starting on the return trip to St. Paul the following morning. It had been agreed that Brevet Maj. Samuel Woods, captain of Company E, Sixth infantry, from Fort Dodge, would be found at the mouth of the Blue Earth with his company, but on reaching that point they had not arrived, and the West Newton went on up without them.

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Should a post be established on the upper Minnesota river, as I have suggested for your consideration, the necessary buildings might be constructed for a small outlay of money, and a portion of the troops now at Snelling be stationed there. I need hardly say to you, sir, well acquainted as you are with the strength of different Indian tribes of the West, that the Sioux or Dakotas are the

Most Powerful and Warlike Tribe. on the continent. They are stretched over thousand miles of country and wage interminable war with almost every other band with whom they are brought in contact. It is a fortunate circumstance that to event has hitherto occurred to disturb the friendly feelings between the whites and these Indians, and a continuance of this harmony may be anticipated if a wise policy is pursued by the government. Still, it is highly expedient, and in fact, indispensable, that a respectable force

the site was fixed. The selection was largely influenced by the existence of a large spring of pure water, half way down the bluff, and by the easy access to a good landing on the river. It was a good place for a military establishment simply, but a very poor location for a fortress liable to attack, for the site of the fort proper was flanked within gunshot on the east and west by two large and deep ravines, into which a large assailing force might approach and shelter itself and fire upon the garrison. The river bluff on the south also afforded approach and shelter to an assailing force, so that the fort might easily be attacked on three sides.

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Fort Dodge was abandoned, but there had been great delay in disposing of the property, and the weather having been very wet the prairies were in bad condition for marching, and Maj. Woods and his company could not reach the mouth of the Blue Earth in time to go up on the steamer. They

Marched Across the Country,

a long and toilsome tramp over wet prairies, and reached the new quarters a few days after Companies C and K.

By virtue of his rank, Capt. James Monroe, Jr., was first in command. Lieut. Kelton was the first post adjutant and acting assistant commissary. Upon his arrival with Company E, Maj. Sam Woods assumed command of the post, and Capt. Lewis A. Armistead, a brevet major for gallantry in the Mexican war, took command of the company. Capt. Dana was assigned to the charge of constructing the buildings. He had previously built Fort Ripley, which stood on the Mississippi, about fifteen miles below Brainerd.

In 1855 he resigned from the army and engaged in the banking business in St. Paul. During the war of the Rebellion he was at one time colonel of the First Minnesota, and rose to the rank of major general. The first buildings erected were log cab-

bles, bakery, guard house, etc. In June, 1853, the post was named by Adj. Gen. Cooper, Fort Ridgley, in honor of Capt. Randolph Ridgley, a Marylander and an officer of the army, killed by the fall of his horse at the battle of Monterey, during the Mexican war. The name should be spelled as here printed, according to the Army Register, although in Gen. Cooper's order the e is in the first syllable.

In 1854 the three companies of the Sixth infantry were relieved by the Second in-



FORT RIDGLEY FROM THE PARADE GROUND.

be present in the country for the protection of the settlers and of those officers entrusted with the charge of our Indian relations in that quarter, if, unhappily, any exigency should occur, or a spirit of disaffection spring up, to threaten the peace of the frontier.

At no point could such a force be stationed with so much advantage as at some point near the lower line of the reservation,

ins for the soldiers' quarters. These stood a little north of where the main buildings were afterwards put up. When completed, the main buildings formed a parallelogram, including the parade ground. A large two-story stone barrack building was on the north; a stone commissary building near the northwest corner; officers' quarters on the south, etc. When finished, there were seventeen buildings in all, counting the sta-

infantry. The next year they were relieved by the Tenth infantry. In about 1857 the post was made a sort of school of instruction for artillery, and four companies of the Fourth artillery composed the garrison, and eight pieces of cannon of various calibres, including the twenty-four-pounder which afterwards, under Sergt. McDrew, did such effective service, were added to the armament. In 1861, on the outbreak of

the Rebellion, the regulars went away, and the Minnesota volunteers took their places.

Noted Officers Here.

At intervals from 1853 to 1861 many officers who afterwards rose to great notoriety or real distinction were stationed at Fort Ridgley. Among them were Lieut. John C. Kelton, since adjutant general; Capt. Fred Steele, who was a major general in the Union army; Col. Alexander, who became provost marshal general, who became provost marshal general. Of the officers here from time to time who subsequently became either brigadier or major generals were Dana, Kelton, Steele, Sully, Abercrombie, Alexander, T. W. Sherman, Patterson, Lyon, the Armistead brothers, Bee, Dannevant, Morris, Pemberton, De Russey, Tyler, Patterson and Hill. Others held high rank in the staff, as Livingston, Ruggles, Hawkins, Bingham, Swain, Hudson and Du Barry. Some of the officers were Southern men, and during the War of the Rebellion followed the fortunes and went down under the folds of the "stars and bars."

Capt. Barnard E. Bee, of the Tenth infantry, a South Carolinian, became a Confederate brigadier and was killed in the first battle of Bull Run. It was he who gave "Stonewall" Jackson his sobriquet. During the battle the men of Bee's brigade were wavering and he shouted to them: "Look at Jackson's brigade—there they stand like a stone wall!" Lieut. Frank S. Armistead was at Ridgley in 1856-7, and he became a Confederate general and was killed in the great rebellion. Capt. John C. Pemberton, Fourth artillery, was at the fort from 1859 to March, 1861, and a little more than two years after the latter date he surrendered his army and Vicksburg to Grant and the Mississippi went "unvexed to the sea."

Capt. Steele was a great sportsman and spent a great deal of time when not on duty in hunting over the prairies of Ren-ville county and in the Minnesota bottoms. Many of the other officers often indulged in this pastime, and during the proper seasons hunting excursions were frequent. Capt. Bee was a bright, intelligent officer,

always alert to his duty and every inch a soldier. He accompanied Judge Flandrau (then Indian agent) on the expedition against Inkpaduta in March, 1857, just after that bloody and villainous red-skinned renegade had perpetrated the massacres at Spirit Lake and Springfield. The snow was deep and the march very toilsome and harrassing, but Judge Flandrau says that Capt. Bee was an ideal campaigner and never faltered or murmured. Pemberton had his family with him at Ridgley, and was not especially noticeable during his stay.

Capt. Louis A. Armistead was here in 1853-4. He was an accomplished officer and as brave as Caesar. On one occasion Little Crow and three companions were attacked near the fort by a band of Chippewas that had slipped down into the country on

A Raid Against the Sioux.

Little Crow and his companions were in a wagon driven by Charlie Mitchell when they were fired on. One of the Sioux, a half-breed named Russell, was killed, and Little Crow jumped and ran like a turkey. Capt. Armistead was sent out against the Chippewas and captured some of them and brought them into the fort. One was wounded and sent to the hospital. One day a number of Sioux came down from the Redwood agency bent on killing the captives. When within a hundred yards of the fort they set up a yell and dashed forward. Armistead was in the officers' quarters, in the southwest corner of the parade ground, near the principal entrance. At once he seized a saber, ran out and, placing himself in the middle of the roadway, brandished his weapon and with cut and thrust kept back the yelling throng until the guard could be turned out and come to the defense and drive the enraged Sioux away. Capt. Armistead was a Confederate major-general and was killed at Gettysburg.

Fort Ridgley was abandoned and broken up in the spring of 1867. Maj. Ben. H. Randall, now of Winona (and from whom much of the information contained in this sketch has been obtained), was from the

first and for several years thereafter the post sutler at Fort Ridgley. In 1861 he entered the land including the site. He donated the present cemetery, where Capt. Marsh and his men and Mrs. Eliza Muller, of blessed memory, are buried. In 1883 the United States circuit court vacated his title and took the land away from him, because of his refusal to pay the appraised value of the buildings of the fort, said to be worth \$4,800. Subsequently the land was entered by Mr. Butler Le Barron, the present owner, from whom the commission purchased the monument site. The old buildings were long ago torn down and the materials hauled away by citizens of the neighborhood.

During the war, and especially during the Sioux outbreak of 1862, Fort Ridgley had an eventful experience—one that will make it hallowed ground forever in the estimation of those who admire gallant deeds and Anglo-Saxon pluck and grit. But that is another story.

ANNIVERSARY OF INDIAN MASSACRE

STORY OF THE UPRISING OF THE
SIOUX IN 1862 IS GRAPHIC-
ALLY RECOUNTED.

DANIEL O'SHEA'S STORY.

A PARTICIPANT IN THE FAMOUS
DEFENSE MADE BY A GALLANT
BAND AT FT. RIDGLEY.

It is odd, but a fact that the Indian massacre of 1862, and the siege of Fort Ridgley came about because an Indian brave of the Sioux tribe stole a nest of hen's eggs from a white settler.

There is particular interest in this bit of history just now for the reason that forty years ago yesterday the first killing of the uprising occurred, and forty years ago today Chief Little Crow agreed to lead a general uprising against the whites. The scene was not far removed from the Twin Cities, and one does not have to be an old man to remember the occurrences.

On Sunday, Aug. 17, 1862, four braves of Chief Shakopee's band were hunting near Acton, Minn. One of the braves found a nest of eggs in a fence corner and appropriated it. Another brave remonstrated, saying the eggs belonged to a white man and that trouble would follow. At that the thief taunted his fellows with being cowards. In order to prove their bravery and maintain their standing with the tribe, the Indian who had made the remonstrance

Offered to Kill

the first white person he saw. All four proceeded to a nearby house, where the Indian killed his man. The others killed four other whites at the same time. The murdering Indians escaped in the direction of the Redwood agency and found Chief Shakopee, who, with 150 braves, escorted the young warriors to the camp of Chief Little Crow. The latter agreed to lead a general massacre of the whites, the attack to begin next morning at the agency.

The latter consisted of four traders' stores, several government buildings and a number of dwellings. The first shot killed James W. Lynde, as he stood in the door of Nathan Myrick's store. The shot was the signal for a general attack, and in thirty minutes not a white man was left in the village. A few fugitives had escaped toward the Minnesota river and had plunged down the bluffs. The Indians plundered the stores and did not give chase. These fugitives made their way to Fort Ridgley, twelve miles down the river, arousing the settlers as they went.

The fort was garrisoned by 85 men of Co. B, Fifth Minnesota volunteers, commanded by Capt. Jacob Marsh, a brave but inexperienced officer. He set out with 45 men for the scene of danger, leaving the balance of the company in command of Lieut. Thomas P. Gere.

A fight was in store for Capt. Marsh and his men, from which only a few were to

Come Out Alive.

The command was ambushed by the Indians at the ferry.

Among the survivors of the fight, is a man still living, D. O. Shea. His home is still within the shadows of Ft. Ridgley. He not only survived the battle but later in the same week served the famous brass six pounder from the exposed southwestern corner of the fort, never leaving his gun for three days and three nights. Within the fort were 300 refugees, men, women and children. Just outside were hundreds of Sioux fighters. Beyond the fighting line the squaws were waiting for the time when they could apply the torture to the expected prisoners.

Mr. O'Shea was a veteran of the Second United States artillery having enlisted in 1854 and had fought in numerous Indian battles. He is still a man of soldierly bearing in spite of his 65 years.

To the Dispatch Mr. O'Shea gave an interesting description of the

Battle and Siege.

"When the outbreak started I was living at Paul Wagner's house, nine miles west of the fort, on the ferry road. The people coming along told of the trouble, and after hitching up and sending Wagner's family to the fort he and I went toward the ferry to see what was up. We met Dr. Humphrey, government physician at the agency, coming on foot, with his wife and three children. Mrs. Humphrey was tired and wanted a drink of water. I said: 'Time is precious; go on till you come to the first house, and the boy can find the trail through the bushes to the spring.' Dr. Humphrey's family went on and we set off again for the ferry."

Here the narrator was interrupted by the question:

"Why did you go forward and thrust yourselves into needless danger instead of making for the fort?"

"We wanted to know in what force the Indians were. After a bit we saw three or four coming towards us, and Wagner thought they were white men. 'Don't trust your white men,' said I; 'we'll get into the corn field and you get behind me and let me use the gun if they meddle with us.'"

Proved to Be Indians.

The sand flew all around me like hailstones."

Indian Tactics.

"Were you wounded when you fell?"
"I was not; but it's Indian tactics to drop when you see a gun leveled, then when your enemy's gun is empty you can rally your men and fire. But there were too few of us left to rally for a charge. The last I saw of Capt. Marsh he was falling from his mule—there were no horses at the post at that time—but whether he or the mule was wounded I couldn't tell. There was no chance to discharge after the first volley from the bushes, and we all broke and ran for cover. I started down the river. My gun was heavily loaded with buckshot; I kept my thumb over the hammer and my forefinger on the trigger. An Indian raised up from behind a log and both of us fired at once. He fell and I did not wait to see whether he was killed or wounded. I hid out in the bushes all that night and the next day where I could see the Indians running the ferryboat, driving cattle and horses with wagons that they had gathered up. The second night I started for the fort twelve miles below and got in at 1 o'clock at night."

Mr. O'Shea's statement only covers what he knew from personal observation. Of the forty-five men of Capt. Marsh's company only twenty-one reached the fort. Capt. Marsh was unhurt when Mr. O'Shea saw him fall, but the mule was killed. The captain was drowned a little farther down in attempting to lead his few followers across the river in order to elude the pursuing Indians. Wagner and the boy escaped to the fort.

Forty Years Ago Today.

This engagement took place on the afternoon of Monday, Aug. 18, 1862. The Indians, instead of immediately investing the garrison with its remnant of thirty men, spent the rest of the day in celebrating their victory and appropriating the effects of the slain. On Tuesday, Aug. 19, they went in force to attack the town of New Ulm, eighteen miles farther down the river from Ridgley, and about thirty from the agency where the different bands of the Lower Sioux were now concentrated. This delay on their part to follow up their advantage was the salvation of the garrison. Capt. Marsh before starting to the ferry had sent out couriers to overtake Lieut. T. J. Sheehan, with a detachment of Company C, Fifth regiment, who had set out two days previously from Ridgley for Fort Ripley, and Maj. Galbraith, Indian agent, who had raised a company of fifty men, known as the "Renville Rangers," and had left Ridgley for Fort Snelling on Sunday, Aug. 17. Both were overtaken about forty-five miles from Ridgley, the one north, the other east at the town of St. Peter. Lieut. Sheehan's command has just set up camp for the night when the messenger arrived, but the tents were immediately struck and the forty-five miles covered in seven hours, the company entering the fort at dawn. Maj. Galbraith was overtaken about sunset, and at sunrise the following morning he set out with his company for the relief of the anxious garrison, arriving some time during the day.

Strengthened the Post.

On his arrival, Lieut. Sheehan, now senior officer, took command and began the work of strengthening the post, which was not even defended by a picket fence. The buildings were scattered over a piece of level prairie, which was nearly surrounded by deep ravines running up from the Minnesota bottoms, providing an easy approach for the enemy. Fort Ridgley, rather a cantonment than a defensive post, was established in 1853, and named "Ridgley" by Jefferson Davis, secretary of war at the time, in honor of a brave officer who fell in the Mexican war.

The first attack on Fort Ridgley occurred on Wednesday, Aug. 20. As Mr. O'Shea had come in that morning from the vicinity of the ferry his statement can now be taken up.

"When I got into the fort Sergeant Jones, orderly sergeant, said to me:

"There's a gun and a crew of men for you." The gun was a six-pounder, and during the siege was stationed at the southwest corner, near the commanding officer's quarters. Sergt. Jones had been a cavalry man, but he learned artillery drill when his troop was fighting Indians on the plains, which enabled him to understand the use of the Howitzer. There were plenty ammunition and guns in the fort, but the men did not know how to work them. They were all raw recruits or citizens that had flocked in from the country round, and had no more knowledge of artillery service than I had of watchmaking. I served five years in Company L, Second United States artillery; spent three years in fighting the Seminoles in Florida, and the rest of the time till the expiration of my term of service, among the Indians of the West. I worked the gun under the direction of Sergeant Jones, but most of the time he was going round among the new men to show them how to handle their arms. When I acted without orders it was in behalf of the government to save the fort. There was no time to wait for orders when I shelled and burned the sutler's store near the head of the short ravine where the Indians were concentrating to charge on my position. If the Indians got past us and I was not killed I was going to turn the gun on the magazine, and in the confusion the whites could scatter and be two miles off before the Indians could realize what was up."

"Acted without orders!" So did the Twenty-first Lancers at Omderman and Kipling's "Black Tyrone.")

Saving of Fort Ridgley.

"And I say that Lieut. Sheehan was a cool and brave man although a young officer. I say further, that Lieut. Sheehan ought to get all the credit for skill and bravery in saving Fort Ridgley in the face of so many disadvantages. At night we threw in hot balls into the battery stables. The Indians had cut loose the government mules and the horses brought

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Proved to Be Indians.

"They proved to be Indians, but they passed by without seeing us. We kept on to the ferry till we were sure and certain that matters were serious, then we turned back to go to the fort. On the way back we found that Wagner's house, that we had left an hour before, was burning, with the roof fallen in, and the body of Dr. Humphrey lying in the yard. There was no trace of the family, but after we got started again for the fort the little boy came out to us from the bushes where he was hiding. While he was at the spring the Indians killed the father and burned up the rest of the family, the mother and two little girls, in the house. We took the boy along, and soon met Capt. Marsh and his men. We begged him, for God's sake, to turn back for the Indians were in too strong force for his men. When he wouldn't listen to our advice, we wheeled about, the boy with us, and we went along with the troop, and I was sworn in by Capt. Marsh. The captain acted on the advice of the interpreter and pushed ahead toward the ferry. People came out to us from the bushes and from Faribault's house, but the captain sent them back to the fort. When we got to the log house near the ferry, we found Mr. Wagner, one of the government men at the agency, sitting up straight at the table as if he was taking his dinner. He was badly wounded, and we hunted up a pillow and laid him down on the floor, with the pillow under his head."

Many Dead Bodies.

"Did you see many dead bodies as you came along?"

"Yes, Wagner found the dead body of his brother, and there were many others," he said, indifferently, with an old campaigner's contempt for harrowing details. Death in war time seemed to be a matter of course.

"There was only one Indian in sight; he was walking up and down at the landing at the other side of the river. I told the captain if the ferryboat was tied up at our side it was a trap, and if it was cut loose, they were a party of outlaws, according to my experience in fighting Indians, and he'd best not get on the boat. The Indian on the other side called out to the interpreter to come on."

"Do you know it to be a fact that the Indian told the soldiers to get on the ferryboat? That Indian, Shanka Ska (White Dog) was afterward executed at Mankato, and he declared to the last that he did not tell them to come on."

"I stood about a foot and a half to the right of the interpreter. Capt. Marsh was close to me on the other side as we stood in front of the company that was two files deep facing the river. Wagner and the little boy were at the left of the men. I heard the interpreter tell Capt. Marsh to go on the boat. The brave young captain had no experience with hostile Indians, and neither did his men. They were new recruits, but he began to think all was not right, and he would not act on the advice of the interpreter. He asked me in my judgment what he'd best do. I told him we ought to go back to the log house without loss of time. The company was then at front face, and, to start them for the log house, which was up the river, the captain ordered right face. This brought Wagner and the little boy to the rear of the men. White Dog saw our maneuver, raised his gun and fired the signal shot. In the act of turning right face a volley was poured into us from the bushes all around us, and more than half of us fell at the first fire. The Indians were in hiding all about at our side of the river. I had kept an eye on White Dog and the minute he leveled his gun I was down flat. The interpreter fell and tried to rise but fell back again dead.

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"What are 'hot balls,' Mr. O'Shea?"

"Cannon balls that are put in the fire till red hot, brought out in a kettle to the gun and dropped in."

"Can you give any account of the happenings inside the fort? Was there sufficient food for all the people?"

"I cannot tell what happened behind me for I could not take an eye off the ravine so close that I could fling a pebble into it from the place where I stood. It was the point where the enemy could get at us at shortest range. There was a long pile of cord wood ranged up just at the top of the ravine and it gave the Indians a good hiding place where they could spy on us even better than from the ravine. All I know of what was happening inside the fort is that I got enough food. My victuals were brought to me at the gun; I couldn't leave it for three days and nights."

"Were you wounded in any of the engagements?"

"I was not; but it would be better for me if I was. I don't get a pension from the federal government because I was neither killed nor disabled," returned Mr. O'Shea with a hearty laugh. "The government said I was a better man when I went out of the service than when I went in. The only signs I could show were two buckshot holes in my hat made by the Indian that fired at me from behind the log at the ferry. I was attached to Capt. Mark Hendrick's battery, organized to go out on the expedition against the Indians."

"Were you in the battle of Wood Lake?"

"I was. The commander, Gen. Sibley, stood beside the gun I was working. He was a brave and good man and a true gentleman. He had the best knowledge of Indians of any man I ever met. His judgment was good in not crowding on the Indian camp while the wild hostiles were in it. If he had the wild fellows would have killed every white captive of the hundred odd women and children at Camp Release."

See Pioneer Press about 1862
8
Riding on
THE REDSKINS.

CAPT. SWAN'S REMINISCENCES
OF THE SIOUX REBELLION.

Incidents of the Relief of Fort
Ridgely, the Battle of Birch Coo-
lie, Marshall's Expedition to
Wild Nest Lake, Etc.

The following letter was written by Capt. J. H. Swan, formerly of the Third Minnesota Infantry, and now a prominent attorney of Sioux City, to a friend and former comrade in St. Paul. Capt. Swan took an active and conspicuous part in the suppression of the Sioux outbreak in 1862, and his letter, though written in a gossipy vein and not for publication, narrates many interesting incidents of that period:

Dear Old Friend and Comrade: * * * I have read with great interest the articles that have appeared in the Pioneer Press from time to time narrating certain incidents of the outbreak of 1862. Their perusal stirs up old memories and in my mind I go over the old scenes again. I cannot refrain at this time from reminding you of certain things that occurred and of certain other things we saw and did in those days when we fought the redskins—and when they fought us.

I do not want to mix in any controversy, but as I have before written I was in Gen. Sibley's tent at Fort Ridgely the night before the detachment was sent out that

from St. Peter to go through to the relief of Fort Ridgely, and the mosquitos, eager for white man's blood as the Indians? And how the horse of Mr. Attorney Nourse fell in the bridge over a marshy stream? We all dismounted to help him up, and in the struggle both Nourse and the horse went over into the stream below. We fished him out and the horse floundered ashore. Just before the accident Col. Marshall had been indulging in some chaff about Mrs. Jane G. Swissheim, who used to edit a paper at St. Cloud. When Nourse had extricated himself and got the water and mud out of his mouth, he continued the conversation with this remark: "Well, if Mrs. Swissheim could see me now she would find me a wet Nourse for sure."

When we started on that march a Minneapolis company was in the advance, and after we had gone a few miles we were surprised to meet the head of the column filing back by us, as though retreating. All stopped for an explanation, when it was learned that a dispute had arisen between Maj. McPhall and the captain of that company. (I cannot now remember his name, but he was a brave and reckless fellow.) This rather nonplussed the rest of us for a moment, until one, William R. Marshall, afterwards colonel of the Seventh Minnesota, and still later governor of the state, spurred his horse to the front and called on every one willing to go to Fort Ridgely that night to follow him. We all seemed to remember then that Fort Ridgely was where we had started for, and we followed. Soon after, while we were "baiting" our horses at a farm by the roadside, the Minneapolis company again fled by and again took the lead. It was a weary ride that night. When we came to the creek about three or four miles before we reached the fort, the road led down to the creek bottom and out again through some timber and brush. We

thought we had reached the relief of Fort Ridgely, and distinctly remember the arrangement was made that Maj. Joe Brown should lead out with a detail of infantry a mile or so as Capt. Joe Anderson had with him and go to the lower agency and as much farther as Brown thought proper, the expedition to be absent not more than three days. I joined the detachment and accompanied it on my own account, merely telling Maj. Brown that I was going and asking him not to leave me out in the count for rations. * * *

The second morning out we marched to the Minnesota at the old lower agency ferry, buried the bodies of the soldiers who had been killed there under Capt. Marsh, and when this was done the mounted men, including several civilians, crossed the river, which was deep enough to take the smaller horses off their feet for a few yards. We went up the bluff to the agency, buried the dead there and then went on to Little Crow's village. We remained here awhile looking over the ground, and I think we found and opened one or two caches of Indian plunder. While here Maj. Brown, Maj. Galbraith and myself concluded to follow the Indian trail a little farther up the river. Before starting Maj. Brown told Capt. Anderson where we were going, and directed him as to his movements, so that he could join the infantry in camp that night. We followed the Indian trail toward the Yellow Medicine until we were satisfied they had not gone off on the prairies. We then turned north and went down on the river bottom, and as we saw no signs of Indians we found a good place where we could watch and rest, and then we unsaddled our horses and let them cool and rest, while we took a lunch of wild plums, which were abundant there. We then saddled up, went down to and recrossed the river, then went to Beaver creek, which we followed up a short distance, and then turned eastward out on the prairie. I stopped at a deserted cabin and Brown and Galbraith went on. Brown had told me where the camp would be, and I reached it after sundown. * * *

At the gray of dawn the next morning we were attacked. The infantry at first tried to fall in line. Two or three men dashed out through an opening in the corral opposite the corral and others were starting, but they were met by Maj. Brown, pistol in hand, and stopped. Down on the other side of the corral Capt. Anderson was telling his men in a voice loud enough for the Indians to hear, and in language more

if anywhere, and the word was along the line that if attacked we should make a dash through, every man for himself. Fortunately we found no Indians, or it might have been rough on those of us who should have got left.

Another lonesome night we had together, old comrade, on Wild Goose Nest lake, on Marshall's expedition to the Coteau, after Camp Release. Finding that the Indians we were in search of had left the timber at the foot of the Coteau, the mounted men threw off their blankets and haversacks, and with nothing but their arms hurried forward, expecting to find them at a lake about fifteen miles further on. They had stopped there, but had again gone on. Willow creek was a short distance ahead, but when we reached there the Indians were still in advance of us. But Col. Marshall had his nose to the ground, and the scent of the trail was so fresh and strong in his nostrils, and so, without stopping, he led us a hot run until just at dusk, when we came in sight of Wild Goose Nest Lake, and the scouts reported the game at the other and farther end. We rode down into a "swale," or ravine, near the lake, where we could water our horses in a small arm or projection of the lake without being seen, and then every man unsaddled his horse and held him to graze. What sleep the trooper got was while he held one end of a halter and and his horse the other. The horses had food, but the men had not. During the night while the men were thinking most of their empty stomachs, a wag in my company solemnly assured his comrades that Col. Marshall was actually eating grass for his supper the same as his horse! Some of the men took the trouble to investigate the matter to see if this was true. They found the colonel sitting in a hammock, placidly gazing at the twinkling stars in the clear sky and abstractedly chewing a spear of grass! The report was literally true, but there wasn't much consolation in it. We waited patiently until daybreak, when, tightening our belts again, we soon forgot our hunger in the stealthy, careful ride around the hills and the Indian position in the wild dash upon the camp.

It was a long charge we had to make to overtake and capture the second band, for it was on the move and we came unexpectedly in sight of the fugitives some two miles away. En route at one place the trail led through a narrow strip between two marshes. A colony of grey ground squirrels held the greater portion of the high land of this strip and had honeycombed it with their burrows. Those acquainted with the

"Get under the wagons," and the same orders were repeated by everybody as soon as it was comprehended that this was the proper thing to do. In a little while Brown was shot in the head or neck. He fell on the tent ropes, and I caught him and carried him into the tent and turned him over to Dr. Daniels, who was busy with the other wounded. He soon recovered consciousness, came partly out of the tent, and directed a lieutenant (whose name I have forgotten) to take some men and go to the side of the corral where there did not seem to be any of our men. Meantime I had caught a bullet in my watch, and the force of the ball and an instinctive swerving had toppled me over, but I got reorganized in time to accompany the lieutenant. I got a musket from one dead soldier and ammunition from another; the caliber of the one was 48 and of the other 69.

I read with interest Big Eagle's version of the Birch Coulee affair. His account as to the route by which the Indians reached Birch Coulee does not agree with that given by them before the military commission, as I remember it. However, it is of particular interest to me, for it shows that Maj. Brown, Maj. Galbraith, and myself just missed a meeting with them when we were above Little Crow's village. We left Capt. Anderson and his men at the village and went some distance on the Yellow Medicine trail before striking off into the river bottom, and must have been near the Indian advance, if they had an advance guard, when we turned off. However much we may have admired Mr. Big Eagle, Mr. Little Crow and their friends, the other eagles and crows, big and little, I do not think, even if we had known at the time they were coming, we would have incommmodated ourselves to meet them. Before we went down into the bottom we saw the infantry under Capt. Grant on the other side of the river, and Maj. Brown pointed out, far across the prairie to the northwest, the probable site of the camp for the night. When Big Eagle and the other Indians got to Little Crow's village Anderson was on the other side of the river, just emerging from the Beaver creek timber, and it is possible that Brown, Galbraith and I were still in the Minnesota bottom. It is strange that they did not have some scouts along the bottom and that we were not discovered. Had we been, there might have been a fight, but more probably a horse race, and though in that contingency there would have been no battle of Birch Coulee, it is not pleasant for me to conjecture the result!

I did not see the incident spoken of by Capt. Grant of the Indian at Birch Coulee riding up during the fight under a flag of truce and holding a parley, and having his horse shot as he rode away, etc. Big Eagle says it might have happened while he was away at dinner. It did not happen while I was at dinner, for I had no dinner. There was no necessity for such a conference, for the half-breeds with us and the Indians had several communications with one another by hallooing back and forward. The horse that Big Eagle speaks of as captured by Buffalo Ghost was Maj. Brown's white-legged mare. He had her picketed outside the corral the night before, and when the firing began she broke loose, and when she had run 200 or 300 yards from the wagons an Indian sprang up out of the grass and ran her off. This was right in front of where I was at the time. I emptied my fancy Smith & Wesson revolver at him, but I did not hit either the Indian or the horse. Of course I attributed the failure to the pistol, and then it was I hunted up a gun.

I inquired for Dave Redfield, for he and I were often together. He rode a splendid bay mare, and I had tried to devise some way of getting her, but getting less than \$250 would buy her, and that sum was beyond my pile. He cared for her himself, and on the morning of the attack she fell early. As soon as she had stopped her death struggles Dave was behind her, using her for a back-work and shooting over her side. I crawled up to him and asked: "Dave, what is her price now?" "Looking back over his shoulder he answered, "Not a cent less than \$1,000." A few minutes later the poor fellow got an ugly wound in his ankle. He was right. Dead horses were more valuable than live ones for a little while that day. I shall always remember the pleasant smile with which Dr. Daniels greeted every wounded fellow that crawled into his tent. He seemed to have an increasing patronage.

Do you remember the evening we started

of such places a similar locality and flew along the border of the nation and the border of the nation. A dozen or more inexperienced fellows dashed fairly into it. Of course the horses broke through the thin crust of earth over the burrows and went down, and horses and riders were soon involved in wild confusion. Fortunately no one was injured, and the luckless troopers soon mounted their steeds and joined their comrades. The capture of the second band was a neat job, for not one of the Indians got away. When the flurry of the affair was over, and we were taking an account of stock, a wagon loaded with goods, and on the top of which was a large trunk labeled in conspicuous letters "Joseph R. Brown," attracted our attention. On examination it was found that not only the wagon and the oxen that drew it, but the goods it contained belonged to Maj. Brown. The valuable and apparently guileless and innocent way that the Indian who had them in charge explained to the major that he had found these things at his (Brown's) house and that fearing if he left them there they would be destroyed, and that out of pure friendship for the major he had taken charge of and kept them for him, and his seemingly earnest expressions of the intense satisfaction he felt at having the opportunity to deliver them safely to him, was very entertaining, if not positively refreshing!

Of the Indians we captured on this trip, of the long return march, the scarcity of rations and the furious blizzard of ashes and dust in which we made the last day's march to Camp Release I need not speak; they have long been matters of history. That was a long time ago, and I do not suppose that you and I could now sit in our saddles as finely or walk as far as we could then; but somehow, thinking back over those times, I almost feel as though well, as if I would like to have something happen. Doesn't it sometimes come over you that sitting out on a hammock and chewing grass, as Col. Marshall did, would be an agreeable evening's entertainment, just for a change? Really, I would give a good deal for the appetite I had that night. But times flies and then comes "Good bye." Yours,
—J. H. Swan.

Sioux City, Iowa, July 24, 1894.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1913

CAPTURED BY THE INDIANS

(Continued from page 1)

After years had passed and the horrors of that terrible incident palled into a dreaded memory, is it strange to note that the friendship that sprung up between the Indian mother and captive girl, in the hour of trial should ripen into pure love? In Mrs. Schmidt's home in St. Paul, "Sna-na," as the squaw was called, was a frequent and welcome visitor. She was later married to Good Thunder, with whom she lived happily until her death about five years ago. And even then memory of her is gladdened by the knowledge that her name adorns the list of good Indians, to which the state of Minnesota have done homage.

On the occasion of her visit to Worthington, Mrs. Schmidt expressed a desire to learn if any of the survivors of the outbreak reside in this part of the state. If so, she would welcome correspondence from any, who feel as she does, and as all must, that something should be done by the state by way of erecting a fitting memorial to those early settlers who lost their lives at the hands of the Indians. Mrs. Schmidt at present resides at 462 Webster St., St. Paul, where a letter will reach her at any time.

Any move which will tend to immortalize the memory of those early martyrs should receive a generous support. They were the pioneers of the state and their lives were sacrificed in preserving the state just as truly as were those of the civil war in preserving the union. It is now over fifty years since the outbreak and up to the present time not even a single shaft marks the resting place of the victims of that terrible massacre.

GOODTHUNDER'S SERVICE.

Rev. W. H. Knowlton Thinks His Name Should Be on the Monument.

Rev. W. H. Knowlton, the missionary in charge of the Indian congregation at Birch Coulee, has addressed the following letter to Hon. C. D. Gillilan, chairman of the association in charge of the erection of a monument for the friendly Indians during the Indian outbreak in 1862. Mr. Knowlton writes:

"I understand by hearsay, but what I regard as good authority, that Goodthunder's name is not to appear on the forthcoming monument to the Indians who rendered substantial service to the whites during the outbreak of 1862. In this I am confident that a great injustice will be done. The accusation is that he stole a 'white horse' at Ridgley. Great heavens! suppose he did, or any other colored horse! But I don't believe he did. He says he did not, and, having had personal dealings with him off and on for thirty-five years, I am free to say I would take his word with that of any white man I have ever known. Moreover, his accuser, as I understand, is Wamhdetanke (Big Eagle), one of the hostile chiefs at the time of the outbreak, and the worst mischief-maker I have had to deal with since I took charge at Birch Coulee. I would not believe him or trust him under any circumstances. What I know of Goodthunder's course at the time of the outbreak is as follows:

"First—He carries Gen. Sibley's certificate of most useful service as a scout.

"Second—My sister, who was a missionary to the Indians at the time, wrote of him, Taopi and Wancuncapaza (Ironshield) as having saved the lives of upward of 200 women and children.

"Third—Mrs. Weatherstone's, and Mr. Frank Robertson's reported statements that he saved the life of their sister Minnie (Mrs. Hunter) at the peril of his own, having dared Little Crow to his face.

"Calling your further attention to Goodthunder's noble and generous life during the last thirty-seven years, doing more for humanity in proportion to his means than any other man that I (and probably you) have ever known, I trust you will see that right is done in these premises."

J. E. JOHNSTON

... DEALER IN ...

GENERAL HARDWARE, BUILDERS' SUPPLIES,

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.

BENA, MINN.,

1904

R. J. Holcombe Esq
St. Paul
M

My Dear Friend

In Regards to the Pass you are trying to get for me on the G. N. R. R. I will give you the Reasons I think I am entitled to one. First as the Rail Road Runs through over 40 miles of the Chippeway Indian Lands and second that as a Minister of the gospel to my People the Indians and my Salary is very small as my People are poor and I am not able to pay R. R. fare from the small Salary I receive. Having to make very frequent visits to my People on the Reservation in visiting the sick burying the dead and preaching the gospel to them I cannot do this on my Salary and if my Rail Road fares were given to me I could attend their wants much better. I am a poor man and my father before me Chief White Cloud also was a poor man and as you know was a friend to the white man. And I think that as

J. E. JOHNSTON

... DEALER IN ...

GENERAL HARDWARE, BUILDERS' SUPPLIES,

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.

BENA, MINN.,

190

Mr Hill is a good and just man he will see that I am not asking for anything unreasonable. My whole desire and object is to educate my people and try and make them better citizens and more like the white Brothers hoping you may be able to say my cause before Mr Hill in the true and right fight and hoping he may be able to assist me in my endeavors to help my poor people

I am yours in friendship

Charles J White

na sho ta

To whom it may concern I have known Elder Chas Wright for a long time and have found him to be a true and just man and worthy of the esteem and patronage of my and all good citizens

J. E. Johnston

President of Village of Bena

Inclosed in: 1917, Feb. 2. Hill to Holcombe.

Geo. C. Gilbert, M. D.

Cass Lake, Minn, January, 2nd, 1907.

I have known Rev, Charles ^JWright, a long time, and know that he is a most worthy and honorable man, and entitled to the good will and confidence of all citizens. He is engaged in the laudible work of trying to educate his people to become better equiped in all ways to take up the role of useful manhood and womanhood. I take pleasure in subscribing to his character .

Geo. C. Gilbert
Inns Village Council.

I take pleasure in subscribing to this character .
in all ways to take up the role of useful manhood and womanhood .
work of trying to educate his people to become better citizens
and confidence of all citizens. He is engaged in the land his
is a most worthy honorable man, and entitled to the good will
I have known Mr. Charles Wright a long time, and know that he

Casa Lake, Ill., January, 2nd, 1907.

Yours truly returned,
R.D.H.

Enclosed are \$1.00, Feb. 2, 1907
W.D.H.

FIFTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

MOSES E. CLAPP, CHAIRMAN.

PORTER J. McCUMBER. ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE.
ROBERT J. GAMBLE. JOHN T. MORGAN.
CLARENCE D. CLARK. FRED T. DUBOIS.
CHESTER I. LONG. WILLIAM A. CLARK.
WILLIAM WARNER. HENRY M. TELLER.
GEORGE SUTHERLAND. WILLIAM J. STONE.
FRANK B. BRANDEGEE.

LEE F. WARNER, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

January 3rd, 1907.

Hon. R. J. Holcomb,
Care State Capitol,
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Holcomb:

Your valued favor of the 31st ult. enclosing proposed amendment to the Ft. Ridgely Pension Bill, is received and contents noted.

I see no objection to the amendment and will take it up with Mr. Stevens, who will have to get the amendment put on in the House, then when the bill comes back to the Senate with the amendment, I will move that the Senate concur in the House amendment. Between you and me, I am afraid it will not go through the House this session and if it does not it will have to be introduced again and next time I can put the amendment in in the Senate, but ^{now} ~~not~~ it can only go in in the House and be concurred in by the Senate.

With regards and compliments of the season,

I am,

Very truly yours,

Moses E. Clapp

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JUNE 26, 1906.

Referred to the Committee on Pensions.

AN ACT

To extend the United States pension laws to the participants in the battles of New Ulm and Fort Ridgely, Minnesota, in the Sioux war of eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.*

3 That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, au-
4 thorized and directed to place on the pension roll, subject to
5 laws and regulations as to ratibility for pensions, those citi-
6 zens of the State of Minnesota enrolled in any company serv-
7 ing under command of Charles E. Flandrau during the
8 battles of New Ulm, between the nineteenth and twenty-
9 fourth days, both inclusive, of August, eighteen hundred and
10 sixty-two, or who were organized by the commanding officer
11 at Fort Ridgely and served under Ordnance Sergeant John
12 Jones, United States Army, during the attack of Sioux
13 Indians on Fort Ridgely in August, eighteen hundred and

1 sixty-two, and whose names appear on the roster of citizens
2 participating in the defense of New Ulm or Fort Ridgely
3 in Charles E. Flandrau's list of "Citizen soldiers engaged
4 in the Sioux Indian war," prepared and published under an
5 act of the legislature of Minnesota, dated April sixteenth,
6 eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, which is published and
7 known as "Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars," or, in
8 case of death, the surviving widow and minor children of
9 any such citizen.

Passed the Senate June 25, 1906.

Attest: CHARLES G. BENNETT,
Secretary,

By H. M. ROSE,
Assistant Secretary.

59TH CONGRESS, }
1ST SESSION. } **S. 752.**

AN ACT

To extend the United States pension laws to the participants in the battles of New Ulm and Fort Ridgely, Minnesota, in the Sioux war of eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

JUNE 26, 1906.—Referred to the Committee on Pensions.

[Jan 3, 1902]

Hon R. J. Holcombe.

My dear Brover ^{and} friend.

Last year when you
lay in ambush for the
big Chi-mo-Roman.
Mr J. J. Hill and threw
your war club at him.
But you did not hit
him. And this year I
want you to try him
again not to use it
a war club but use it
a good bow strong one
and I have furnished
you two good Arrows
to shoot at him.
As I have two prominent
men of this Country and
their introductions

of me. *Dim! Dim!* to
the big *Chi-mo-ko-mon.*
and shoot at them
in their hearts.

From your Chief.

Charles T. Wright.

Wah-bon-a-quad.

White Cloud.

Carl Lake Indian Mission
Jan'y 3rd 1907.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 3, 1907.

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

My dear friend Holcombe:

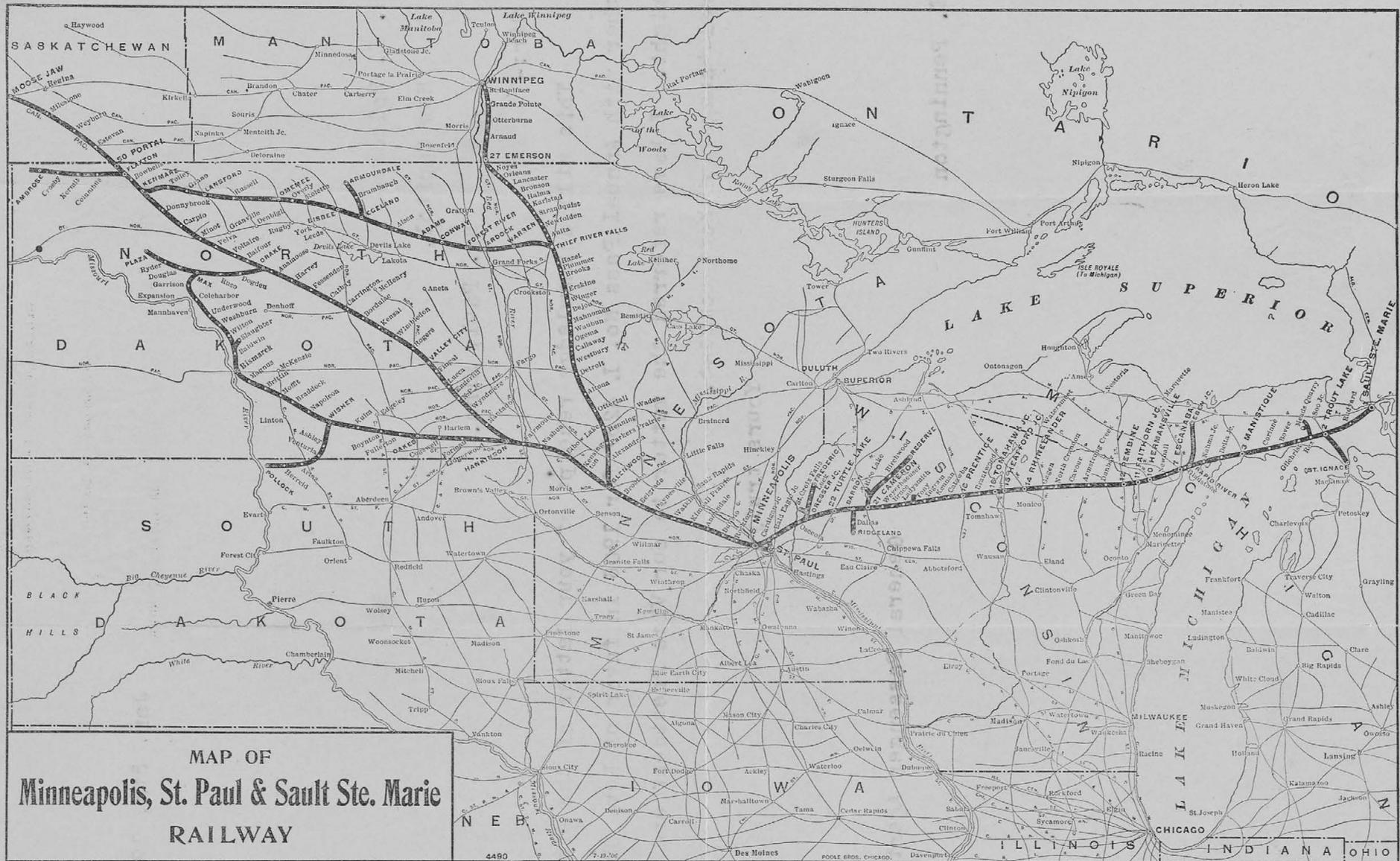
Your letter received enclosing amendment relative to granting pensions to indian fighters of 1862. I will be very glad to take up this matter with Congressman Fletcher of the Committee on Military Affairs and trust we will succeed in our endeavors in having the amendment adopted. With best wishes, I remain,

Yours very truly,

F. C. Stevens

Over 30 New Towns in North Dakota.

Exceptional Business Opportunities.



Through Sleeping Cars--Boston, Montreal, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Seattle.



MINNEAPOLIS, ST. PAUL & SAULT STE. MARIE RAILWAY.

GENERAL PASSENGER DEPARTMENT.

317 SECOND AVE. SOUTH

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Jan. 5th, 1907

Mr. R. I. Holcombe,
New Capitol,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th inst. together with Annual Pass No. L 4257 for 1906 in favor of Rev. Chas. T. Wright. I have referred the matter to our Vice President and General Manager without comment.

Yours truly,

W. Hallaway
General Passenger Agent

R-p

Cy. E. Pennington

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY LINE.

OFFICE OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT.

St. Paul, Minn., January 7, 1907.

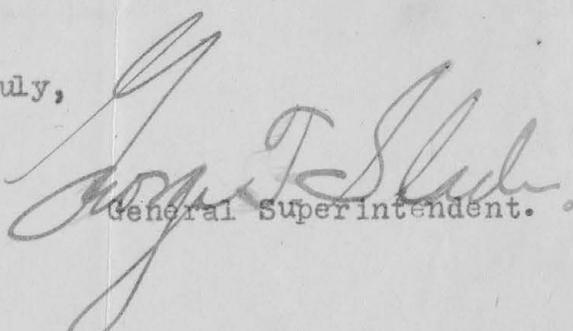
Mr. R. I. Holcombe,
Historical Secretary,
New State Capitol, City.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter with reference to the issuance of transportation to Rec. Chas. P. Wright (Chief Wau-bon-o-quod)

The issuance of all complimentary transportation is handled by our Fourth Vice President, Mr. B. Campbell, to whom the papers received with your letter of January 5th, have been referred. Mr. Campbell will doubtless advise you regarding this matter.

Yours very truly,


General Superintendent.

House of Representatives U. S.
Washington, D. C.

January 9, 1907.

R. I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Holcombe:

Yours of recent date, with enclosure of amendments to Senate Bill #752, is to hand. I shall take the matter up at once with Mr. Stevens and Senator Clapp, and see that they do not forget. Also, we shall present these amendments to the Committee for their incorporation into the Bill, if possible.

Thanking you for your good wishes, and extending the same to yourself, I am,

Very truly,

J. Adam Bede

MUELLER & FARIBAULT,

REAL ESTATE.
701 CHESTNUT STREET.
WAINWRIGHT BLDG.
ST. LOUIS.

St Louis Jan 11th 1907

Major R. J. Holcombe
St Paul Minn

Dear Major

I have much curiosity to know what conclusion you came to about old Tama ha, especially as you stated in a letter that he "gave you more trouble than any dozen other noted Indians." I know that he had been badly mixed up with others who looked like him - Old To mah, Thomas, and One Eye Decorah, whose Indian name was Kah Kan de ca rah - no relation to the Indian of that name who died not so long ago at Mendota. I presume you knew him, a brother to Jacopi.

I had a letter from Capt. Benson lately saying that the Tama ha he knew or knew of was not and could not be Drayaginagi. According to my request and understanding when I saw you in St Paul you will not publish my letter. If what I have stated you find new and correct you are to use -

Yours very respectfully
W. R. Faribault

JOHN A. T. HULL, CHAIRMAN.
 RICHARD WAYNE PARKER,
 ADIN B. CAPRON
 GEORGE W. PRINCE,
 ELIAS S. HOLLIDAY,
 H. OLIN YOUNG,
 JULIUS KAHN,
 LOREN FLETCHER,
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 THOMAS W. BRADLEY.

JAMES M. MILLER,
 JAMES F. BURKE,
 WILLIAM SULZER,
 JAMES HAY,
 JAMES L. SLAYDEN,
 ROBERT F. BROUSSARD,
 JOSHUA F. C. TALBOTT,
 ARIOSTO A. WILEY,
 BIRD S. MCGUIRE.

HERMAN D. REEVE, CLERK,
 CLIFTON E. STANLEY, ASST. CLERK.

Committee on Military Affairs,

House of Representatives U. S.,

Washington, D. C.,

January 11-1907.

My dear sir:

I am in receipt of your favor of the 8th instant and have read it with a great deal of interest. It seems a far way cry from old VanBuren days until now, and yet I remember my life in Van Buren County with a great deal of pleasure. One thing, we were all young then and even what would be called rugged places now were crowned then with a bow of promise. I think I made a mistake in not sticking to the newspaper business, as there is a vast amount of comfort in the ability to say what you please each week.

I note what you say as to the bill for the relief of state troops in Minnesota and will refer your letter to the sub-committee having the bill in charge. I have not very much faith in the measure being adopted. The parties could get pensions by a direct application to the committee on Pensions in each individual case, if the Pension Committee believed their service was sufficient to justify the expenditure. The trouble about taking in the Militia in all cases where they have been called out to defend their own State or their own frontier, is that it opens up an immense field and might entail as much expense as the pensions given Civil War veterans.

FIFTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

JOHN A. T. HULL, CHAIRMAN.
RICHARD WAYNE PARKER,
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GEORGE W. PRINCE,
ELIAS S. HOLLIDAY,
H. OLIN YOUNG,
JULIUS KAHN,
LOREN FLETCHER,
BEMAN G. DAWES,
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JOSHUA F. C. TALBOTT,
ARISTO A. WILEY,
BIRD S. MCGUIRE.

HERMAN D. REEVE, CLERK.
CLIFTON E. STANLEY, ASSISTANT CLERK.

Committee on Military Affairs,

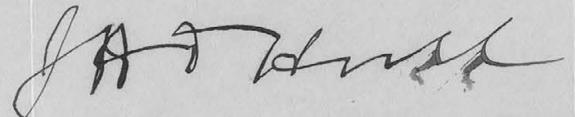
House of Representatives U. S.,

Washington, D. C.,

Missouri presented some peculiar arguments in favor of the Militia being given a military status and immediately after the close of the war, Congress appointed a Commission who carefully examined the records of all the Militia of Missouri and gave certain enlistments the rights of those who had been mustered into the service of the United States, but the men who ~~are~~ ^{were} familiar with all the circumstances at the time and who ~~are~~ ^{were} undoubtedly as anxious to do justice to the men who served the country as we could be at this day, drew the line at the action taken for Missouri, Pennsylvania, New York and Maryland and a large number of other states are now clamoring for the Government to shoulder a new class and put them upon the rolls with a military status; men who have never been mustered into the United States service and men that soldiers and statesmen of the Civil War period never proposed to recognize. While there is undoubtedly merit in many of these claims, yet it is very doubtful if there is any equity in asking the Government to now take it up. When any men, as individuals, performed such service as to justify the Government granting them pensions, a shorter way to that would be through the Committee on Pensions.

Yours very truly,

R. I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minn.



Cass Lake Minnesota Jan 14th 1907

Hon J. R. Holcombe.

St. Paul Minn

My dear Brave ^{and} friend.

The Pass just come
to hand to day from Mr E. Pennington
the Vice Pres^{nt} & General Manager of
(Soo-Line) which you got it for
me. good aim ^{my} good shot! And
you go on to attack him another
a big Chi-Mo-Ko-man. Mr J. J. Hill
and good aim at him ^{and} shoot
at him ^{and} don't be only wounded
him but kill him right there and
if you will kill him right
there I will give you a good
feather to put it on your head.
And I have written to Mr Pennington
to thank him to day for the Pass
Very Sincerely
Charles W. Wright.

FIFTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

JOHN A. T. HULL, CHAIRMAN.
RICHARD WAYNE PARKER,
ADIN B. CAPRON,
GEORGE W. PRINCE,
ELIAS S. HOLLIDAY,
H. OLIN YOUNG,
JULIUS KAHN,
LOREN FLETCHER,
BEMAN G. DAWES,
THOMAS W. BRADLEY.

JAMES M. MILLER,
JAMES F. BURKE,
WILLIAM SULZER,
JAMES HAY,
JAMES L. SLAYDEN,
ROBERT F. BROUSSARD,
JOSHUA F. C. TALBOTT,
ARIOSTO A. WILEY,
BIRD S. MCGUIRE.

HERMAN D. REEVE, CLERK.
CLIFTON E. STANLEY, ASST. CLERK.

Committee on Military Affairs,

House of Representatives U. S.,

Washington, D. C.,

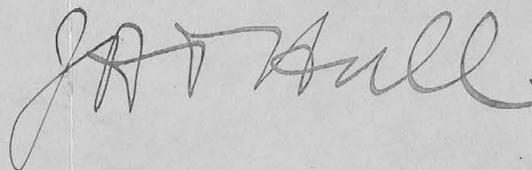
January 18 1907.

My dear Mr. Holcombe:

Your favor received and I have been greatly interested in your very full letter in regard to that Indian war. It seems to me that in view of the past acts of the Government in regard to pensions, that what the Minnesota delegation should do, would be to add themselves to the list of the Indian wars which would give every one of the participants in the war a pensionable status.

I am glad you paid the tribute to the memory of Newt Ridenour. He was one of the big hearted men of Iowa in his day and I was always very fond of him.

Yours very truly,



Mr. R. I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minn.

Class Lot 4

1/23.07

Mr R. J. Holcombe.

My dear Brave & friend.

If you will not hurt
him with your arrows to the
big Chi Wo Ho man this time I will give you
a spear next time.

"Yes" "Yes" I will give you a good feather
to put it on your head that you
had been killed and scalp one a big
Chief The president of the (Soo Line)
Nothing news up here at present
except lots of snow up here now
the people says almost three feet
deep already still snowing every other
day. ~~and~~ last week we had 38 belougers.
I am afraid the Indians will be hard
up this winter on account the
snow. We are all well as usual
and I hope you will find you are
the same condition. From your Chief
or (Qgrimah) & friend. Char. T. Wright.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

WASHINGTON Jan. . 24th. 1907.

Mr. R. I. Holcombe .

St Paul. Minn.

My dear Sir:-

Your letter in reference to Senate 752. known as the
Fort Ridgely gill is at hand . This measure is in the hands of Hon.
J. T. Mc Cleary the member from the sedond district , and I will be
pleased to confer with him on the lines you suggest. I think it
might be well for you to drop Mr Mc Cleary a line also. Assuring you
of my interest in the bill,

Very Gruly Yours,



FIFTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

WILLIAM P. HEPBURN, Iowa, Chairman.
James S. Sherman, N. Y. Joseph H. Gaines, W. Va.
Irving P. Wanger, Pa. James Kennedy, Ohio.
James R. Mann, Ill. Robert C. Davey, La.
William C. Lovering, Mass. William C. Adamson, Ga.
Fred C. Stevens, Minn. William H. Ryan, N. Y.
Charles H. Burke, S. Dak. William Richardson, Ala.
John J. Esch, Wis. Charles L. Bartlett, Ga.
Francis W. Cushman, Wash. Gordon Russell, Tex.
Charles E. Townsend, Mich. J. E. Hill, Clerk.
J. F. Bryan, Ass't Clerk.

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,

House of Representatives U. S.,

Jan. 26, 1907.

Hon. R. A. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minn.,

My dear Capt:

Your letter received and I have finally located your bill in the room of the Committee on Pensions and not with the Committee on Military Affairs. I have arranged for a hearing before the Committee for Congressmen McCleary, Volstead and Davis and myself as we are all interested in the bill. I was formerly a member of this Committee and realize the difficulty before it. I very much hope it will report out the bill favorably before the end of this session of Congress. I know they have before them a great multitude of these bills and some of them have been pending for many years and they have not made any report on any of them. But we will do the best we can and hope to secure action. I will inform you later after our hearing. Assuring you of my interest and desire to be of service all that is possible, I remain,

Yours very truly,

A. D. Seavins

House of Representatives U. S.
Washington, D. C.

January 31, 1907.

R. I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Holcombe:

Yours of the 22nd is to hand. I have taken up the matter of the Sioux War soldiers with Congressmen Stevens and McCleary. The Bill is not before Captain Hull's committee, but before the Committee on Pensions, of which Mr. Loudenslager, of New Jersey, is Chairman. I also spoke to Captain Hull about the matter, and he reiterates what you had written me as ~~in~~ his judgment in the case. This Sioux War having been largely in McCleary's district, and he having given some consideration before to the matter, we thought it only courteous to him to let him lead in presenting the claim of these soldiers. We shall have a hearing soon before the Committee, and I shall write you again as to the results.

Remember me to my good friend Tim Sheehan, with the wish that he may abide with us for many, many years.

Hoping to see you soon after adjournment, I am,

Very truly,

Adam Bede

Grove City Minn 2/1st 54

Adjutant General
St Paul

Minn

Dear sir

I have at last finished
our Experience with the Indian
massacres of 1862 which I herewith
enclose the pages are numbered
so I hope you will be able to make
them your I am more used to
the blow saddle than the pen
Hoping to hear from you
soon I am

Yours very truly
Wes Gopson

1
At the Town of Swede Grove County
of onecker state of minn
On the 17th day of Aug 1862 the Settlers
where gathered at my house for the
purpose of hiring soldiers to go south
to avoid drafting in our town at
about one o'clock I discovered some
Indians coming towards my house I
went in the house & told the party
that Indians where coming so they
all rushed out of the house to see them
they Indians looked unusually wild I
asked them where they where going
they told me in their Language that they
where going to the big woods to kill
Chippewans for they had killed white
men so they started of and laughed they
where nine in number all mounted
on ponies I told the party at my
that there was something wrong with
them Indians, which we at 8 o'clock
the same day in the evening had
the report that the Indians had
killed Jones & Becker Families then
I & my brother Andrew and W. G. Hanson
took each a horse and went down to find
out if there was any truth in the report
which we found to our surprice was true
there was quite ^{number} of settlers gathered ^{over}

2 The house and had placed guards around their house as we approached the house we were haulted by the guards as it was quite dark, we told who we where & they told us to come on so we found that the report was true that they where killed they asked us to come back in the morning to help bury the dead, In the morning we went down & found quite a number from Forest City the County seat and some kind of an inquest was held, we placed a Guard around the ^{house} proceeded to make boxes for the dead while engaged in doing this same band of Indians that passed my house the day before came up to our guards seeing we where so many gathered there they retreated back over the hill & crossed a big marsh in the meantime we followed them up & exchanged a number of shots on long distance none take effect then after crossing the marsh J. B. Atkinson and others went for their horses and went after the Indians to a point near Lake Lillian Kandiah County. The rest of us came back & finished the boxes & brought the remains to the Norwegian Lutheran Cemetery where the five victims was buried in one grave Mrs Jones - Mr. Becker - Mr. Webster - Mrs Jones - Miss Clara D. Wilton
over

3
we now go back to the killing of the families according to Mrs Beckers own statement at the time those Indians eleven in number came to Jones house and demanded something to drink which was refused Mrs Jones and wife left and went to a neighbor one quarter of a mile distant Mrs Beckers house shortly after the Indians came over to Beckers house also the Indians then proposed to trade guns and shoot at marks which was done the Indians reloaded their guns in a hurry and turned & shot Mrs Jones he had fallen in the act of reloading his gun Mrs Webster went to the house and was killed on the door step Mrs Jones was killed in the house and Mr Becker Mr Becker sitting close to his wife when receiving his first shot jumped up and got in front of his wife that was sitting close to a trap door and received his second shot that was intended for his wife Mrs Becker with her baby in her arms fainted and fell in the cellar which saved her life the same Indians went back to Mrs Jones house and killed the hired girl
over

4 who was taken care of one adopted
child of our Jones about 2 years old
from them the two of the Indians
left the party and went to Lake
Lisabeth and stole a team of
horses belonging to a Oklunel
and started for the Agency &
after we had buried the dead we
went back to our homes and found
all of the settlers left for Lake
Ridley now Lettsfield being late in
the evening we stayed at my home
that night and made up our minds
to fight for our lives if it had come
to that, the next morning we mounted
our horses and went around the grave
to see if we could discover any
Indians. but found none but the
third day as we came out west of
the grave we discovered some settlers
between Diamond Lake and Swede Grove
and some Indians after them
which we afterwards found they
had killed two men and quite
a number of cattle there we started
for Forest City expecting to find
our families there but had already
gone through the big woods there
thinking they were safe we stopped
at Forest City

over

and joined Captain C. Witecomb's Horse
 Guard first we where ordered to proceed
 to Kingston to press all the horses we
 could find so as to prevent them from
 gaining through the woods the number
 of horses we pressed at different times
 where fifty five in number at that
 time some where ordered to build
 a stockade and some to stand guard
 after a few days a party of about
 40- of us where ordered out to bring
 a family from Kandocoy County
 that where reported to be hidden
 on an Island in Sagelack the
 first day we went as far as Swede
 Grove to Peter Lund's farm there
 we found some Indians preparing
 a meal in a big Iron Kettle they
 saw us coming and went into the
^{woods} nearby so we went around in the
 field and had quite a skirmish
 with them but our Horses got
 unmanigable when we fired our
 guns so we where ordered back to
 Forest City the next day we where
 ordered to hitch to Lumber wagons
 it took us sometime so we did not
 get as early a start as the day
 before so we only so we only got
 about half the way to Swede Grove

6
before dinner so we stopped at H. Peterson's farm for dinner as there were oats in shocks on the field for feed & we also had something to eat after dinner I asked Captain Witecomb if I could go and get some melons for the boys which was granted so I took a 2 bus sack & started for the melon patch about one half mile distant so P. E. Hanson, Arid. Peterson and myself and one of the teamsters they picked up one melon a piece and started back but I stayed and filled my sack I told the teamster to take my gun for I could not very well carry a sack full of melons and the gun but missed afterwards I had kept the gun for when I was $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile from the melon patch I saw some smoke on the hill to my right about 150 yards away the first thing I know a bullet came whizzing over my head I throwed my sack and ran and four more shots were fired at me, I never looked to see where my teams were for I expected to find them where I left

7
them but to my surprise where all about one half mile on the way to Forest City I got one team covered by Erick Wicklund who had a pair of four year old Cotts that he could not manage to hitch up when I saw the situation I jumped over the fence and helped him to get the horses hitched while he stood and held them I got hold of the lines and told him to come quick for there was three Indians that had followed me up they were not more than 50 yards away from us, but had not finished loading their guns, about one mile and a half we overtook the party that had started ahead of us, the reason why the party had left so sudden was because P. E. Hanson after he left the melon patch took precaution to go up on a high hill close by, he discovered I saw we were to be surrounded by about 3 or 4 hundred Indians had it not been for him discovering how we were to be surrounded there would in all probability not have a soul left to tell the tale but I did not know anything about that until I overtook the party then I

Could see the situation Capt. Witcomb
 rode ahead of the party bunched
 ordered them to go ahead as fast
 as they could I told him I wanted
 my gun which I got the rest be-
 longing to our wagon came to us at
 this time we then discovered three
 Indians on horseback coming right
 towards us I told the party in the
 wagon to raise the high sight on the
 rifles for I know they would not come
 very close to us before they fired at
 us and we leveled our guns at
 them as we stood there one of the
 Indians in the lead jumped of his
 horse & fired at us the bullet striking
 in the wheels of our wagon we all at
 once fired at him which made him
 drop to the ground and his second
 shot went up in the air I went
 up in the wagon waved my hat and
 hooped just like the Indians that
 stopped they other Indians from
 coming closer we started then to
 overtake the others and found in
 crossing a marsh the party ahead of
 us had left one man behind who was
 trying to get a horse up that had been
 mired in the marsh as we drove
 around him we halloined to him to come

For the Indians were close after us
 our Teamster wanted to drive on but
 I told not as long as I am alive for
 I was left behind once I grabbed the
 lines & turned the Team around facing
 the marsh and told him to come
 quick but was all tuckered out so
 he was not able to come so two of
 the party helped him into the wagon
 then we started and overtook the
 rest of the party about two miles
 further on there where at this
 time two Indians way ahead of
 the other Indians following us
 up I asked the Capt. if he would
 not let P. E. Hanson & Mr Holmes and
 myself hide in the grass to try
 and kill those two Indians that
 were following us up but the
 Capt would not allow us as he said
 there was about three or four
 hundred Indians behind them
 but coming within three miles of
 Forest City He stopped and said
 we may try & kill those two Indians
 but they did not come up within
 range we exchanged a few shots
 but to no avail so he ordered us

go as far as we could to Forest City had the Indians followed us up at that time there would no doubt be a terrible massacre for there would have been about seven to one for the stockade at Forest City when not more than half finished then we all went to work with double energy young & old that day and the next day the next day at ten o'clock in the evening we had the stockade ready but nobody had moved in even the ammunition was not moved in but ~~then~~ those of us that stood guard had about forty or fifty rounds that night of the attack W.E. Garrison and Elofson and myself stood guard on the road leading to Sweet Grass at 12 o'clock the officers came around and released us with some other party we told him we thought we heard some noise in the river which was close by but he said it might have been something else so we went to our lodging place at Louis Ekbon's shoemaker shop being close to the stockade at about 3 o'clock in morning the guard gave the signal and all started for the stockade we got there as soon as Capt. Mitcomb,

first thing we asked him if we had any horses in in the stockade and said no he then asked if we could get one we told him that there was two horses outside the stockade belonging to and Elofson and told him to bring them inside and told W.E. Garrison and myself to stay in the gate and help the families to get inside the stockade I shall never forget the sight some where coming with a sheet over them & some in their night close at this time and Elofson got one of his horses and brought inside the stockade and had gone after the other one but Indians commenced firing at the fort on the same side as the horse was, so the horse got wounded and he had a narrow escape himself, before he got inside the fort the Indians where bombarding that side for that was ~~that~~ that was finished that night and the Indians no doubt had seen that in the evening that it was not finished they had already commenced firing buildings and haystacks so the Capt ordered all enlisted men to their post and the orders where not to shoot until

The Indians where close up some of
 them came up pretty ^{close} and try to
 take our flag from the liberty pole
 there was 2 indians that made the
 attempt which N. G. Garrison and
 myself either killed or wounded
 as there was two blood pools by the
 pole but they where bound to have
 the flag so another Indian came
 up on horseback & cut the rope and
 the flag fell to the ground we shot
 at him dont know if we hit him
 or not but as soon as an Indian came
 in between the brigst fire so we could
 draw a bead on him we let them have
 it but the Capt came and told us
 to save our ammunition but we told
 him we would not as we did ^{not} shoot until
 we where sure to kill an Indian
 Close to the fort was a building that
 was in our way Capt ordered that
 to be burned so Jaker Petterson
 volunteered to set the building afire
 after that the Indians had no shelter
 between the city and the fort so when
 even an Indian showed up we kept
 firing at them but Capt told us
 to save ammunition we did not at
 that time know that the ammunition
 was left in the store and was not
 at the fort

After daylight - The Indians kept
 pretty well out of sight - until about
 7 - or 8 o'clock in the morning they
 commenced hauling of farmers teams
 & wagons that had stopped at and
 around the school house which was to
 far of from the fort, so the Capt ordered
 a few of us out to drive the Indians
 away among them where William
 Brantam Aslag Olson U.S. Ganson and
 myself ^{them} when we got there we could
 not see an Indian but first thing we
 know Aslag Olson fell deadly wounded
 then they Indians where firing at us
 from two sides we throw ourselves
 flat on the ground and they shot
 over us as we where on the side
 of a hill that is what saved us
 for the Indians where not over one
 hundred yards from us they hid
 themselves behind Korkens stone
 and by the fence and after they
 had emptied their guns we at
 once started for the fort and there
 were a few shots fired after us
 and Wm Brantam was wounded
 after we got to the fort we saw
 Aslag Olson commenced to move and
 he got up went a few steps and
 fell, four of us went out -

14 and carried him inside the fort
more dead than alive all this time
there was four families in the
School house when they heard us
shooting so close by they looked
out through the window and found
it was us from the fort so they
also started for the fort but had a
narrow escape as some had bullet
holes through their clothes the situation
commenced to look dark for the children
commenced to cry for something to
eat but we had no provision of
any kind they Indians kept pretty
well out of reach they had surrounded
us on all sides then the Chief came
out from behind Atkinson's barn and
had our flag spread over his horse
he had in his hand a red flag
waving over his head he was
riding slow until he got up between
A. S. Smith's house and office there
he stopped we had watched his move-
ments for we had gone up over
the tops of the logs in the stackade
H. S. Hanson Tom Grason and myself
I said let us try him if we raise our
sights I think we can reach him
and Tom Grason said I have a rifle
that I have killed a deer 1/2 mile
of

15

we leveled our guns at ~~him~~
on top of the logs and counted
one two and three and then all
went like one shot down come
my Indian from his house two
other Indians dragged him
towards the river then we could
hear the sawing all around
us then we could see them
now they gathered towards
the river on the Road leading
to Gwede Grove that was the
end of it to our release

Nels E. Olson
Sand City
Weber Co. Utah

Great Northern Railway Company

President's Office.

Jas. J. Hill,
President.

St. Paul, Minn. February 2nd, 1907.

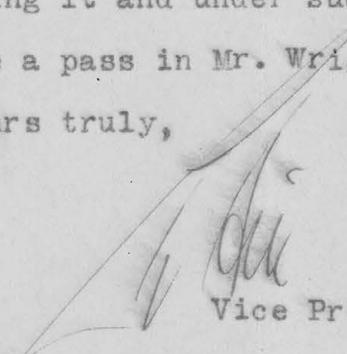
Mr. R. I. Holcombe,
State Capitol, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

Referring to yours of January 25th and returning herewith correspondence upon the subject of transportation in favor of the Rev. Charles T. Wright.

We are not now in a position to furnish free mileage to anyone. As I understand it Mr. Wright has never held annual transportation, and, as both the rules and agreements covering transportation and the laws are much stricter than they were, we are not increasing our pass list, but very materially decreasing it and under such rules and agreements we cannot consistently issue a pass in Mr. Wright's favor.

Yours truly,


Vice President.

(over)

My Dear Chief—

You will see by the letter of the Big Chemokaman on the other side, that I failed to kill him, or even to wound him. I tried my best but my arrows missed and I could not get close to him to use my war club.

Enclosures: 1907, Jan. 2, Letter from Gilbert concerning Charles T. Wright.

1907, Jan. 1. Wright to Holcomb

Mr. R. I. Holcomb,

State Capitol, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of January 25th and returning herewith copies

of the same upon the subject of transportation in favor of the Rev.

Charles T. Wright.

We are not now in a position to furnish free mileage to anyone.

As I understand it Mr. Wright has never held annual transportation,

and, as both the rules and agreements covering transportation and the

laws are such as to restrict them they were, we are not increasing our pass

list, but very materially decreasing it and under such rules and agree-

ments we cannot consistently issue a pass in Mr. Wright's favor.

Yours truly,

Vice President.

FIFTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

WILLIAM P. HEPUERN, Iowa, Chairman.
James S. Sherman, N. Y. Joseph H. Gaines, W. Va.
Irving P. Wanger, Pa. James Kennedy, Ohio.
James R. Mann, Ill. Robert C. Davey, La.
William C. Lovering, Mass. William C. Adamson, Ga.
Fred C. Stevens, Minn. William H. Ryan, N. Y.
Charles H. Burke, S. Dak. William Richardson, Ala.
John J. Esch, Wis. Charles L. Bartlett, Ga.
Francis W. Cushman, Wash. Gordon Russell, Tex.
Charles E. Townsend, Mich.
J. E. Hill, Clerk.
J. F. Bryan, Asst. Clerk.

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,

House of Representatives U. S.,

Feb. 2, 1907.

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

My dear friend Holcombe:

Your letter received and I am glad you have traced the course of the bill in the House. I knew that properly the Committee on Military Affairs had no jurisdiction of it and that it should go to the Committee on Pensions of which I was formerly a Member and am some what acquainted with its jurisdiction and business. But you were so positive concerning its reference to the Committee on Military Affairs. I had the records of the Committed ransacked from top to bottem but nothing was found concerning it. I inquired of Chairman Hull and the stenographer and they knew nothing about it and their letters were written without investigation. But on hunting for the bill itself and looking over the records of the House we found it referred to the Committee on Pensions. The Committee on Pensions is very conservative and many similar bills have been before it for legislation. When I was a Member of the Pension Committee the veterans of the Indian war of 1858, ^{in Wash & Oregon} were asking for similar legislation but it was not granted them. I have conferred with Davis, McCleary and Volstead and will get them interested in this bill and we have requested McGleary in whose District these towns are to arrange for a formal hearing before the Committee when we will present the matter as forceable as possible.

FIFTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

WILLIAM P. HEPBURN, Iowa, Chairman.
James S. Sherman, N. Y. Joseph H. Gaines, W. Va.
Irving P. Wanger, Pa. James Kennedy, Ohio.
James R. Mann, Ill. Robert C. Davey, La.
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Charles E. Townsend, Mich.

J. E. Hill, Clerk.
J. F. Bryan, Asst. Clerk.

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
House of Representatives U. S.,

2/2/07.

R. I. H-p-2"

The very argument stated in your letter that it would save the State would not appeal to the committee and in fact it would prevent them from reporting favorably on the bill. The State cares nothing about these matters and the States are annually reimbursed by the national government for various things.

No one seems to know what is the correct thing to do. But we are all anxious to have justice done to the veteran defenders.

Assuring you of my interest, I remain,

Yours very truly,

J. A. Stevens

I will certainly remember Col

*Sturtevant Commanding at Fort
P. S. Jones*

FIFTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

MOSES E. CLAPP, CHAIRMAN.

PORTER J. McCUMBER. ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE.
ROBERT J. GAMBLE. JOHN T. MORGAN.
CLARENCE D. CLARK. FRED T. DUBOIS.
CHESTER I. LONG. WILLIAM A. CLARK.
WILLIAM WARNER. HENRY M. TELLER.
GEORGE SUTHERLAND. WILLIAM J. STONE.
FRANK B. BRANDEGEE.

LEE F. WARNER, CLERK.

United States Senate.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

February 6th, 1907.

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

My dear Holcomb:

Yours of the 21st ult. was received and I took the matter up with Mr. Stevens. I have been unable of late to keep up with the correspondence on account of the daily sessions of my Committee. I begin to fear they will not get the bill through the House this session. Of course if it gets through in any form we can then easily dispose of it, but if it gets through at all, I think the amendments you suggest can go on there all right and then the Senate can concur in them.

With kind regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Moses E. Clapp

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

WASHINGTON. Feb. 7th. 1907.

Mr R. I. Holcombe.

State Capitol - St Paul.

My dear Sir:-

Yours at hand about the Fort Ridgely bill.

You should at once concentrate your efforts on Mc Cleary . He is the man to whom the delegation looks to call a meeting , adopt

something and present it to Joe Cannon , in order to get the bill up. The measure is one which particularly belongs to the second district , and hence Mc Cleary is the man. I believe that he is interesting himself in the bill and will do all he can, but if you and Mr Schmahl have not written him I would advise you to do so at once, as the time if the session is slipping away , and the fifty-ninth congress will soon be a thing of the past,

Very Truly Yours



IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

DECEMBER 6, 1905.

MR. CLAPP introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Pensions.

A BILL

To extend the United States pension laws to the participants in the battles of New Ulm and Fort Ridgely, Minnesota, in the Sioux war of eighteen hundred and sixty-two,

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, au-
4 thorized and directed to place on the pension roll, subject to
5 laws and regulations as to ratability for pensions, those citi-
6 zens of the State of Minnesota enrolled in any company
7 serving under command of Charles E. Flandrau during the
8 battles of New Ulm, between the nineteenth and twenty-fourth
9 days, both inclusive, of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-
10 two, or who were organized by the commanding officer at
11 Fort Ridgely and served under Ordnance Sergeant John
12 Jones, United States Army, during the attack of Sioux
13 Indians on Fort Ridgely in August, eighteen hundred and
14 sixty-two, and whose names appear on the roster of citizens
15 participating in the defense of New Ulm or Fort Ridgely

1 in Charles E. Flandrau's list of "Citizen soldiers engaged
2 in the Sioux Indian war," prepared and published under an
3 act of the legislature of Minnesota, dated April sixteenth,
4 eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, which is published and
5 known as "Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars," or, in
6 case of death, the surviving widow and minor children of any
7 such citizen.

59TH CONGRESS,
1ST SESSION.

S. 752.

A BILL

To extend the United States pension laws to the participants in the battles of New Ulm and Fort Ridgely, Minnesota, in the Sioux war of eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

By Mr. CLAPP.

December 6, 1905.—Read twice and referred to the Committee on Pensions.

COURTS AT ALBANY, GA.

The bill (H. R. 11501) to amend an act to provide for circuit and district courts of the United States at Albany, Ga., was considered as in Committee of the Whole.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

DIRECTOR OF RECLAMATION SERVICE.

The bill (H. R. 17833) providing for the administration of the operations of the act of Congress approved June 17, 1902, known as the "Reclamation Service," was announced as next in order.

Mr. McCUMBER. As there is no one here to look after that bill, and it is very important—

Mr. WARREN. I hope objection will not be made.

Mr. McCUMBER. I will not make objection if there is somebody here who will stand sponsor for it.

Mr. WARREN. It is a bill to which there is no opposition, and it ought to pass without delay.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The bill will be read.

The Secretary read the bill, and the Senate, as in Committee of the Whole, proceeded to its consideration.

Mr. McCUMBER. On page 1, line 6, I move to strike out the words "six thousand," where they appear in the bill, and insert in lieu thereof the words "three thousand."

Mr. WARREN. I will ask the Senator to withhold that amendment until the Secretary reads the clause in the bill about salary and the committee amendments to the bill.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Does the Senator from North Dakota yield?

Mr. McCUMBER. I yield, Mr. President.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. There are several Senate amendments reported by the committee.

The first amendment of the Committee on Irrigation was, in section 2, page 1, line 8, after the word "That," to strike out "under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior;" in line 11, after the word "works," to strike out "for the storage, diversion, and development of waters, including artesian wells;" and on page 2, line 4, after the word "thereto," to insert "and he shall, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, select and appoint the scientific, professional, and technical employees of the service exclusively for their qualifications as professional experts;" so as to make the section read:

SEC. 2. That the Director of the Reclamation Service shall make examinations and surveys for and locate and construct, operate and maintain irrigation or reclamation works, as provided in the act of June 17, 1902, known as the reclamation act, and any act amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, and he shall, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, select and appoint the scientific, professional, and technical employees of the service exclusively for their qualifications as professional experts.

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, in section 3, page 2, line 10, after the word "the," to strike out "Secretary of the Interior" and insert "Director of the Reclamation Service;" in line 11, after the word "Congress," to insert "through the Secretary of the Interior," and on page 3, line 2, after the word "law," to insert "including the aggregate amount to be paid to laborers directly employed by the Government on each project;" so as to make the section read:

SEC. 3. That immediately after the close of each fiscal year the Director of the Reclamation Service shall prepare and submit to Congress through the Secretary of the Interior a report covering the fiscal year just closed of all operations and expenditures under the reclamation act, the results of all examinations and surveys, the condition of each project proposed and undertaken, the quantity and location of lands which can be irrigated from each, estimates of costs of all works contemplated or under construction; also detailed report of expenditures of each and every kind on each project under construction and total of expenditures on such project; also all returns and reimbursements to the reclamation fund; also a statement of all employees of the Reclamation Service, other than laborers, giving their names, salaries, and where employed; also all expenditures in the acquisition of lands, canals, or other property, and all other information that may be necessary to inform Congress as to all the operations under the law, including the aggregate amount paid to laborers directly employed by the Government on each project. And in order that said report may be in print for the information of Congress at the beginning of each regular session thereof the Secretary of the Interior, as soon as said report is completed, is hereby authorized to transmit the same to the Public Printer with the statement that the usual number of copies is required, and the Public Printer is hereby directed to print the same.

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was in section 4, page 3, line 11, after the word "That" to insert "through;" in the same line, after the word "Interior," to insert "the Director of the Reclamation Service;" in line 18, after the word "expenses," to insert "including traveling expenses to be separately stated;" so as to make the section read:

SEC. 4. That through the Secretary of the Interior the Director of the Reclamation Service shall submit in the Annual Book of Estimates,

under the head of Irrigation of Arid Lands, a statement of the amounts proposed to be expended, during the succeeding year, under the provisions of the reclamation act, for examinations and surveys, for construction, for operation and maintenance, and for general expenses, including traveling expenses to be separately stated; also the number of persons employed in the Reclamation Service in the city of Washington and elsewhere and the rate of compensation paid to each during the fiscal year next preceding the fiscal year for which estimates are submitted, excluding temporary employees and laborers. The expenditures made in pursuance of such estimates shall be dependent upon conditions of practicability, as developed by the surveys and investigations and upon compliance with the provisions of the said reclamation act and of any act amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, in section 5, page 4, line 6, after the word "the," where it occurs the first time, to insert "present;" in line 9, after the word "exceed," to strike out "one" and insert "four;" in the same line, after the word "thousand," to strike out "five hundred," and in the same line, after the word "dollars," to insert "per annum," so as to make the section read:

SEC. 5. That until the President appoints a Director of the Reclamation Service, as provided herein, the duties of said office shall be performed by the present Director of the Geological Survey, who shall receive for such services, in addition to any other official salary he may be receiving, a sum not to exceed \$4,000 per annum, to be determined by the President and paid from the reclamation fund, said additional sum to be paid to said Director notwithstanding section 1765 of the Revised Statutes or section 3 of the act of June 20, 1874, chapter 328.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. McCUMBER. I wish the Senator would allow the bill to go over. It is an important measure. I do not want to insist on it, but I do feel, Mr. President, that when we take a clerkship of this character and give a salary greater than that given to a Member of Congress we are going too far. It is proposed to give a salary equivalent to that which is given to the Director of the Geological Survey. The salary fixed here is so entirely out of harmony with salaries of other officers of like grades that it does not seem to me we ought to pick out one man and double his salary for the character of labor that is performed by others at from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per annum.

Mr. WARREN. Either the Senator is mistaken or I am. The salary named, as I recall it, is not exceeding a certain amount. I have not the bill here before me just at this moment—perhaps the Senator from Montana can give us some information.

Mr. McCUMBER. The Senator will understand that whenever we provide that a salary shall not exceed a certain amount it is always construed to be that it shall be up to that figure.

Mr. WARREN. It never will be more and it may be less.

Mr. McCUMBER. It never will be less than that. I wish the Senator would let the bill go over.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Is there objection to the further consideration of the bill?

Mr. McCUMBER. If we should vote on it to-night we could not get a voting quorum.

Mr. WARREN. I understand the Senator objects to it, and of course it must go over. I ask that it may go over without prejudice.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The bill will go over without prejudice.

SEAL FOR UNITED STATES COMMISSIONERS.

The bill (H. R. 7) to provide a seal for United States Commissioners was considered as in Committee of the Whole.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

CHILD LABOR IN THE DISTRICT.

The bill (H. R. 17838) to regulate the employment of child labor in the District of Columbia was announced as next in order.

Mr. McCUMBER. I understand when this bill was before the Senate on a previous occasion objection was made to it by the Senator from Maine [Mr. HALE]. Neither that Senator nor the Senator from Iowa [Mr. DOLLIVER] being present, I ask that the bill go over.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The bill will go over without prejudice.

OCEAN SHORE RAILWAY COMPANY.

The bill (H. R. 15078) granting to the Ocean Shore Railway Company a right of way for railroad purposes across Pigeon Point Light-House Reservation, in San Mateo County, Cal., was considered as in Committee of the Whole.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

HEIRS AT LAW OF MASSALON WHITTEN, DECEASED.

The bill (H. R. 12252) for the relief of the heirs at law of Massalon Whitten, deceased, was considered as in Committee

thought there would scarcely be enough Senators present this evening to take up the conference report.

Mr. NELSON. If there should be a desire to take it up I do not want this order to interfere with it.

Mr. GALLINGER. Let the conference report be laid aside. I will state that the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. ELKINS] suggested that probably he would not be ready to proceed this evening.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Without objection, the conference report will be temporarily laid aside, and the first unobjected House bill on the Calendar will be stated.

JOSEPH LAWRENCE.

Mr. CULLOM. Will the Senator allow me to have a couple of pension bills passed? I do not care to stay here very long. There will be no opposition to them.

Mr. McCUMBER. Very well.

Mr. CULLOM. I ask unanimous consent for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 17652) granting an increase of pension to Joseph Lawrence.

There being no objection, the bill was considered as in Committee of the Whole. It proposes to place on the pension roll the name of Joseph Lawrence, late of Company G, First Regiment Missouri Volunteers (St. Louis Legion), war with Mexico, and Company C, First Regiment Missouri Volunteer Cavalry, and to pay him a pension of \$30 per month in lieu of that he is now receiving.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

CALVIN CORSINE.

Mr. CULLOM. I ask unanimous consent for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 19220) granting an increase of pension to Calvin Corsine.

There being no objection, the bill was considered as in Committee of the Whole. It proposes to place on the pension roll the name of Calvin Corsine, late of Company B, Twelfth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, and to pay him a pension of \$24 per month in lieu of that he is now receiving.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

SPEED OF AUTOMOBILES.

The bill (H. R. 16384) regulating the speed of automobiles in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, was considered as in Committee of the Whole.

The bill was reported from the Committee on the District of Columbia with amendments.

The first amendment was, on page 1, line 11, after the word "avenues," to insert "nor at a greater rate of speed than 15 miles an hour through any of the parks within said District."

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, on page 2, line 2, after the word "streets," to strike out "on which there are no railroad or street-railway tracks."

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, on page 2, line 4, after the word "hour," to strike out "nor at a greater rate of speed than 5 miles an hour across any intersecting streets or avenues on which there are railroad or street railway tracks."

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, in line 7, before the word "miles," to strike out "four" and insert "six;" so as to read:

Nor at a greater rate of speed than 6 miles an hour around the corners of any street or avenue.

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, on page 2, line 24, to strike out "fifteen" and insert "twenty;" so as to read:

Outside of said fire limits at a greater rate of speed than 20 miles an hour.

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, one page 2, line 25, after the words "miles an hour," to insert:

And when meeting or passing any other vehicle the speed shall not exceed 12 miles an hour, and any automobile shall be brought to a full stop whenever the driver of a horse-drawn vehicle shall signal by raising the hand.

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, on page 3, line 15, after the words "first offense," to insert "and for any and all subsequent offenses."

The amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was, on page 3, line 17, after the word "dollars," to strike out "or at the discretion of the court" and insert "and;" so as to read:

Be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$250, and be imprisoned in the workhouse for not less than thirty days nor more than six months.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. MALLORY. I should like to inquire what is the penalty provided.

Mr. GALLINGER. I will say to the Senator that the penalty for the first offense is a fine of not less than \$5 and not more than \$50; for the second offense, a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$100, or imprisonment, in the discretion of the court, for thirty days, and for the third offense, if committed within one year, and for subsequent offenses, a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$250 and imprisonment for not less than thirty days nor more than six months.

The bill was reported to the Senate as amended, and the amendments were concurred in.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time, and passed.

CONTRACTS WITH THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The bill (H. R. 10074) in relation to contracts with the District of Columbia was considered as in Committee of the Whole.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

PENSIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS IN BATTLES WITH INDIANS.

Mr. CLAPP. The next bill on the Calendar is a Senate bill proposing to extend the United States pension laws to the participants in the battles of New Ulm and Fort Ridgely, Minn. I ask that it be taken up.

There being no objection, the bill (S. 752) to extend the United States pension laws to the participants in the battles of New Ulm and Fort Ridgely, Minn., in the Sioux war of 1862, was considered as in Committee of the Whole. It proposes to place on the pension roll, subject to laws and regulations as to ratibility for pensions, those citizens of the State of Minnesota enrolled in any company serving under command of Charles E. Flandrau during the battles of New Ulm, between the 19th and 24th days, both inclusive, of August, 1862, or who were organized by the commanding officer at Fort Ridgely and served under Ordnance Sergt. John Jones, United States Army, during the attack of Sioux Indians on Fort Ridgely in August, 1862, and whose names appear on the roster of citizens participating in the defense of New Ulm or Fort Ridgely in Charles E. Flandrau's list of "Citizen soldiers engaged in the Sioux Indian war," prepared and published under an act of the legislature of Minnesota, dated April 16, 1889, which is published and known as "Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars," or, in case of death, the surviving widow and minor children of any such citizen.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

PUNISHMENT FOR EXTORTION.

The bill (H. R. 9721) to amend section 5481 of the Revised Statutes of the United States was considered as in Committee of the Whole. It proposes to amend section 5481 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, so as to read:

Sec. 5481. Every officer, clerk, agent, or employee of the United States, and every person representing himself to be or assuming to act as such officer, clerk, agent, or employee, who is guilty of extortion, under color of his office, clerkship, agency, or employment, or under color of his pretended or assumed office, clerkship, agency, or employment, and every person who shall attempt any act which if performed would make him guilty of such extortion, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment, except those officers or agents of the United States otherwise differently and specially provided for in the subsequent sections of this chapter.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND NATIONAL QUARANTINE.

The bill (H. R. 14316) to further protect the public health and make more effective the national quarantine was announced as next in order.

Mr. MALLORY. I move that that bill be indefinitely postponed. The Senate has passed on this subject. The House amended the Senate bill, and the conferees partly agreed upon it and the bill has passed, and I understand has been signed. Therefore this bill has no point in being on the Calendar.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Senator from Florida moves that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

The motion was agreed to.

BRIDGE ACROSS TUG BRANCH OF BIG SANDY RIVER.

The bill (H. R. 17945) authorizing the Borderland Coal Company to construct a bridge across Tug Branch of Big Sandy River was considered as in Committee of the Whole.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

House of Representatives U. S.
Washington, D. C.

February 9, 1907.

R. I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Holcombe:

Yours of recent date is to hand. I shall talk to our Members again regarding the Minnesota Indian Fighters Bill, and see what we can do to push it along. Am very glad to have the additional facts you give, and shall write you later, and at greater length on the subject.

Very truly,

J. Adam Bede

FIFTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

WILLIAM P. HEFURN, Iowa, Chairman.
James S. Sherman, N. Y. Joseph H. Gaines, W. Va.
Irving P. Wanger, Pa. James Kennedy, Ohio.
James R. Mann, Ill. Robert C. Davy, La.
William C. Lovering, Mass. William C. Adamson, Ga.
Fred C. Stevens, Minn. William H. Ryan, N. Y.
Charles H. Burke, S. Dak. William Richardson, Ala.
John J. Esch, Wis. Charles L. Bartlett, Ga.
Francis W. Cushman, Wash. Gordon Russell, Tex.
Charles E. Townsend, Mich.

J. E. Hill, Clerk.
J. F. Bryan, Asst. Clerk.

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,

House of Representatives U. S.

Feb. 12, 1907.

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

My dear Capt:

Your letter received and I am glad to know how you got the idea relative to the reference to the pension bill. We are stirring up McCleary every day. Volstead and I seem to be the most interested and we will certainly insist upon a hearing.

There are many similar bills and it is doubtful if the Committee will report any of them out as they are being pushed with equal deligence. However we will do all that is possible but have not much hope for consideration at this session.

I will keep Col. Sheehan's matter in mind and do all that is possible in the premises. With personal regards, I remain,

yours very truly,

J. A. Egan

SERENO E. PAYNE, CHAIRMAN.
JOHN DALZELL,
CHARLES H. GROSVENOR,
JAMES T. McCLEARY,
SAMUEL W. McCALL,
JOSEPH W. BABCOCK,
EBENEZER J. HILL,
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JOHN S. WILLIAMS,
SAMUEL M. ROBERTSON,
CHAMP CLARK,
WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN,
OSCAR W. UNDERWOOD,
DANIEL L. D. GRANGER.

WILLIAM K. PAYNE, CLERK.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, D. C.,

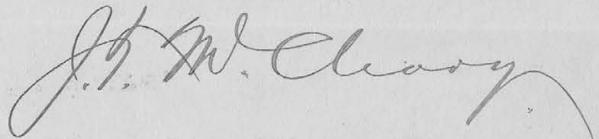
February 16, 1907.

R. I. Holcombe, Esq.,
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear sir,--

Your valued favor of the 11th urging favorable action on S. 752 to pension the survivors of the Indian War in 1862 in Minnesota reached me in due season. In reply I would say that on several occasions I have gone over this matter with the Chairman of the House Committee on Pensions. He said that the Committee recognizes the fact that we have had Indian Wars from the time of the first settlement in America, and that the Committee has been trying to pursue a course with relation to those wars that would commend itself to the candid judgment of the American people. The Committee has a great many bills before it similar in nature to the one referred to. He told me that they had now got the Indian Wars taken care of up to 1858, and that when the Committee made its next move forward he thought it would include our Indian War of 1862. The Committees on Pensions in the House (of which there are two -- one for pensions connected with the Civil War, and the other for pensions connected with all other wars) closed up their work a week ago. So that nothing can be done about the bill at this session.

Cordially yours,



Fruitvale Calif.
Feb 20th / 1917.

Mr R. J. Holcombe.

St Paul Minn

Dear Sir,

Having learned from
Mr Randall. of St Cloud. Minn
that you are in St Paul. I
write asking for information
concerning a law said to have
been passed giving the sur-
vivors of the ¹⁸⁶⁴ Indian Massa-
-cre. in '64. a Pension.

If so will you kindly tell me

the terms of it. You will doubtless remember me as the Lady who gave you permission to publish her Narrative in the St Paul Press. Twelve years ago. I am now living in Firth Vale a suburb of Auckland & will be 74. next July. The Govt gives me the sum of £100 per month. for the many losses sustained by me in the death of two husbands & ^{also} much pecuniary loss. & as my second husband had served 11 years as Chaplain in the U.S. Army. & was one of those who defended Ft

Widely owing the date of Aug 1861.

I cannot see why I should not be remembered among other similar ones. Will you kindly write me if so. & tell me what steps I take in getting my share. Just before this Mrs L. M. Davis died he wrote me that he would endeavor to get a private Pension for me as he felt that I was unjustly treated.

He has a personal friend of both my husband & myself. having known him

many years. Since his death I
have not tried to enlist any
one in my favor. At ^{nearly} all the old
friends have joined the Great
Majority. Maj Randall still lives
at 13. & a few others whom I knew in
the old time. I shall consider it a
great favor if you will comply with
my request. & with the hope that this
may reach you. I remain -

Very Sincerely - Jones

Mrs J. E. DeCamp Sweet

E. S. RICKER

EX-COUNTY JUDGE AND LATE
EDITOR OF THE CHADRON TIMES

THE FINAL CONFLICT BETWEEN THE RED MEN
AND THE PALE FACES. (IN PREPARATION.)

Chadron, Neb., March 15 7,
N. 7th. ST., GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. 1900.

Major R. J. Holcomb,
St. Paul, Minn.,

Dear Sirs;

Herewith please find Prospectus which will explain imperfectly the scope of my work, but which will give you to understand why I write. The plan, as finally determined upon after this circular was printed, is to begin about the time of the Mexican war and treat of our national Indian history during the period from that time until the present.

You will put me under obligations to you if you will cite me to specially useful materials not embraced in general works, particularly to anything relating to the Indians east of the Missouri, and advise me where to make application for them.

On the Minnesota massacre of 1862 I have Heard's and McCoukey's Histories;

also one by another author, and the two volumes published by the State of Minnesota. There may be special publications, magazine articles and newspaper contributions that will add much to a knowledge of particular events that are only briefly noticed in the big books; with these, or some of them, you may be acquainted and able to direct me to them.

I want material of wide range; not merely such as begins and ends with armed conflicts, but that which sheds light on causes, traces the growth of conditions, and deals with results.

I will thank you for any suggestions that you may see fit to make.

I am indebted to Mr. Samuel J. Brown of Brown's Valley, for your name and address.

Yours truly
E. J. Ricker

The Final Conflict Between the
Red Men and the Pale Faces. ♪

Being a description of the battles
of the Little Big Horn and of
Wounded Knee; preceded by a con-
cise review of Indian warfare in the
United States from the first settle-
ment of the country; to which are
added noted historical incidents
and personal adventures. ♪ ♪ ♪

By E. S. Ricker, ex-county judge, and late
editor of the Chadron Times. ♪ ♪ ♪

PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED

CHADRON
DAWES COUNTY
NEBRASKA

Prospectus.

The purview of "The Final Conflict" embraces an amount of discursive history not suggested or hinted at by the title on the first page of this prospectus. It must not be understood that the treatment of the subject will be confined to the harrowing details of the sanguinary and tragic clash of arms in the two celebrated engagements commonly mentioned as the "Custer Massacre" and the "Battle of Wounded Knee"—both in some respects great because of their decisive, destructive and epochal character, one of which, at least, is singularly mysterious in the absence of full knowledge respecting the sacrifice of General Custer and his heroic band when they rode gallantly to their death; while the other has been told so many times with such fertility of variation as to be unrecognizable when not labeled with the fateful words—"Wounded Knee."

After three hundred years of conflict the threatenings and realities of border warfare have ceased to surprise and alarm the country; the white invaders and foemen have conquered resistance and planted peace by the iron power of ingenuity, rapacity, perfidy and numbers; the Indian race in its native vigor and glory is crushed out; the last chapter of its untamed history has been made and may now be written: and whatever there may yet be new in aboriginal story will be but the mournful record of how the embers of a fiery race died out upon the hearthstones given them by the Great Spirit they worshipped, in the ultimate absorption that is to be.

To aid in a better understanding of the "Final Conflict," I shall advert to the period when the Missouri river was the great artery of traffic and communication, and introduce the reader to the work of

the good missionaries whose names must resound forevermore in praise and reverence, and take him upon a lively excursion among absorbing events of primeval life in this deep wilderness of the unknown West—events so thrilling that they seem to verge more on fancy than to be plain recitals of actuality.

Exploits of trappers, adventures of fur traders, and hardships of explorers, in this wonderful region coursed by this mighty waterway, will receive such treatment as the limits of the work will permit. The routes of overland travel and express are historic highways strewn with the bones of daring men following the course of empire to the golden shore; these furnish themes for fascinating narrative which cannot be passed without ample notice.

Bold and hardy characters for generations threaded these plains and crossed the mountain ranges,

Prospectus.

The purview of "The Final Conflict" embraces an amount of discursive history not suggested or hinted at by the title on the first page of this prospectus. It must not be understood that the treatment of the subject will be confined to the harrowing details of the sanguinary and tragic clash of arms in the two celebrated engagements commonly mentioned as the "Custer Massacre" and the "Battle of Wounded Knee"—both in some respects great because of their decisive, destructive and epochal character, one of which, at least, is singularly mysterious in the absence of full knowledge respecting the sacrifice of General Custer and his heroic band when they rode gallantly to their death; while the other has been told so many times with such fertility of variation as to be unrecognizable when not labeled with the fateful words—"Wounded Knee."

and by tireless and dangerous service, and by examples of personal courage and rugged endurance have made a story as charming as ardent imagination can picture. My aim will be to furnish authentic details concerning many of these daring spirits. Habits, customs, rites, imagery and oratory of the Indians, together with an account of the present reservation system and the change which is taking place in forcing on them the forms of civilized existence, will be an extensive feature of the performance.

~~To give logical proportion and coherence to the plan, the whole will be preceded by an outline of Indian warfare in the United States from the earliest settlements on the Atlantic coast.~~

Any person with knowledge of information in any form whatever of writing, printing, or picturing, or knowing of any person who can recount incidents from personal

recollection of what he has known or heard, who will notify me, will confer an important favor. Persons who have suitable pictures, or written or printed matter which cannot be duplicated by purchase, are requested, if unwilling to lend them, to allow me to take copies. Anything entrusted to me will be returned to its owner when I am done with it. Any knowing of publications ever made which it is thought might give assistance, will materially oblige me if they will send word with such description as can be given. By advertising, rare matter is often obtained. I want books, documents, treaties, maps, personal letters, newspapers, magazines, clippings, poems, specimens, pictures, relics, personal statements either in writing or interviews, etc. No matter how small the information; in my hands it may have great combining value.

With sincere respect,

E. S. RICKER.

E. S. RICKER

EX-COUNTY JUDGE AND LATE
EDITOR OF THE CHADRON TIMES

THE FINAL CONFLICT BETWEEN THE RED MEN
AND THE PALE FACES. (IN PREPARATION.)

Chadron, Neb., March 21, 7
N. 7th. St., GRAND JUNCTION, COLO., 190...

Major R. I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minn.,
Dear Sir:

Yours of 19th to hand this morning for which I must warmly thank you. Am pleased to have you say what you do of Chas. S. Bryant's History of the Great Massacre by the Sioux Indians in Minnesota, etc. While I own it, I have never seen it; for latterly my book purchases have gone to Grand Junction, Colorado, where my future home will soon be. My copy was obtained in a New York auction house at a cost of \$3.50. Another work which I have but have not seen, containing some matter on the same subject, is Brownell's Indian Races of North & South America, Natural Customs, Wars, Sioux Wars and Indian Massacres in Minnesota; but I should suppose that this is very general

Volume 6, Minn. Hist. Society's Collections, containing Big Eagle's narrative written by yourself, I want, of course; and I will ask you to let me know the price.

Yes, I have Col. Godfrey's Century account of the Custer battle; Dr. Eastman's article in the Chatauquan in 1900; Col. Hugh's 44-page contribution in the ^{"Journal"} of the Military Service Institution, Jan., 1896, trying to establish the fact that Gen. Custer disobeyed his orders from Gen. Terry; Brady's writings in Pearson's Magazine and his "American Fights and Fighters"; Judson Walker's Campaigns of Custer; Whittaker's Life of Custer; two of Mrs. Custer's books; numerous other writings on Custer; but best of all I spent six days on the Custer and Reno fields last summer studying and mapping, for the purpose merely the better to understand what I read and am told. This winter I have interviewed several Indians who were in those fights, and I am satisfied that I can now express myself with precision and safety

E. S. RICKER

EX-COUNTY JUDGE AND LATE
EDITOR OF THE CHADRON TIMES

THE FINAL CONFLICT BETWEEN THE RED MEN
AND THE PALE FACES. (IN PREPARATION.)

N. 7th St., GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. 190.....

on some of the disputed points.

Concerning Wounded Knee, I have a large amount of choice material, but nothing, as yet, from Dr. Eastman who was Agency physician at the time of the butchery and ^{who} visited ^{within 50 miles of the battle ground} the bloody field the next day. I was living here at that date, and several years before, and have had some opportunities hardly possessed by strangers. I think Dr. E. is living in Amherst, Mass.; wish you would give me his address if you have it. Have been expecting for a year to meet him on the Reservation, but he does not show up.

Will you kindly give me the address of Mrs Nancy Huggins whom you mention? I am glad you told me of some of the materials in the hands of Mr. Paul Brown. To make you acquainted with my situation with him, I will quote from his letter to me written by an Arvanensis

"I am unable to attend to the matters you write about and that while I have a few pamphlets, periodicals, and historical collections on the subject you mention, yet, owing to the condition of my eyes it is quite impossible for me to look them up. x x x x x Regretting that I cannot do more for you now, and hoping that I may be able to help you after a while, etc."

I suppose there is nothing for me to do but to wait a few months and then write him again. I greatly dislike to annoy these venerable people, but it is only by the bull-dog spirit of holding on that I make headway. If I had means to travel and cross the Continent a hundred times I would personally visit all such persons.

The circular I sent you is not an adequate outline of my present plan; for this was not clearly defined in my mind when that was printed. We have to go back to about the time of the Mexican war when we acquired vast possessions in the Southwest, and to the discovery of gold in California, and later in Idaho and Montana, leading to trails and railroads across the plains when whites and reds were brought sharply together, leading to gossamer treaties, fruitful sources of war, to study the causes which precipitated the "final conflict."

I thank you most heartily for your interest and kind words and proffer of assistance. Yours truly, E. S. Ricker

Fruitvale Cal

March, 27th

1907

Mr R. J. Holcomb

St. Paul, Minn

My dear Sir.

Your of recent date. was received in which you said, that Mrs Schmitt had asked for a Bill to be passed by the state Legislature giving a pension to the Indian War Captives

Did the Bill pass? And if
so will you please inform
me of it? The one you in-
troduced would not include
me as that was for those
who rendered special service
at the fort. So the clipping says
me states. which I understand

How kind & paternal our
Govt - is toward its de-
fenders! and how liberal!
I read that many widows
were on the list - for pensions
\$5000, \$2000, \$1500 & so on.
Did the blood of their dear
ones

help more to save our
Country in its peril than
its other brave defenders?
What a tragedy on Justice to
give a widow \$800. a month
who gave all she had to its
defense. even accepting 75¢
on the dollar for all pecuniary
losses. & the loss of two brave
husbands. one for eleven
years an officer ^{in its service} & who in
reality died from injuries
received in defense of the fort
as the other staining the field
of battle with his life blood -
What a grand & glorious
recompense for such

losses!! - yes. that it is a
grand & glorious republic
in which we live. One great
Grandson of mine fought at
Lexington & another before him
fell at the Battle of Cris Kany -
fighting the Indians. & all along
down the line are my kindred
who fell bravely fighting for
their country. & I a pensioner
on the bounty of this great Govt -
receiving \$30. per month for all
my losses! - can such things be?

Hoping to hear a favorable
account of the Bill. & thanking
you for expressions of interest
in it. I remain
Very Truly Yrs
J Campbell Elbert

FIFTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

MOSES E. CLAPP, CHAIRMAN.

PORTER J. McCUMBER,	ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE.
ROBERT J. GAMBLE,	JOHN T. MORGAN.
CLARENCE D. CLARK,	FRED T. DUBOIS.
CHESTER I. LONG,	WILLIAM A. CLARK.
WILLIAM WARNER,	HENRY M. TELLER.
GEORGE SUTHERLAND,	WILLIAM J. STONE.
FRANK B. BRANDEGEE,	JAMES P. CLARKE.

C. E. RICHARDSON, CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

St Paul April 18, 1907

Mr. M. J. Halcomb
St Paul Minn

Dear Mr. Halcomb

I have it to send you my
to send it will be a pleasure
to you the Bulletin sent you
and to put you in some other
for the second time

Cordially yours
Moses E. Clapp



THE SPACE ABOVE IS RESERVED FOR POSTMARK.

POSTAL CARD.

THE SPACE BELOW IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

R. J. Holcomb

St Paul

Minn.

90 New State Capitol.

Chicago #15-07

Hello Bob:-

Come down here to take a job
with wholesale machinery house. but don't
like it. coming up to see you when I
get back. Been here a week and it has
snowed every day. Down its self can't
be beat. So long "Carl"

Smithsonian Institution

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 16th, 1907.

DEAR SIR :

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of April 13th, and to inform you that it has been referred to the Bureau of American Ethnology of this Institution.

Very respectfully yours,

CHAS. D. WALCOTT.

~~S. P. LANGLEY~~

Secretary

Mr. R. I. Holcombe,

Care of Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

[May 14, 1907]

Hon R. J. Holcombe.

St. Paul Minnesota.

My dear friend ^{Mr} Brane.

It is a long time ago since I hear from you. And I was anxious of you that you might had been killed and scalp by Mr J. J. Hill the President of the Great Northern Railroad. And if it has been so happened to you. I will notify to my Indians to attack to the big Chi-mo-Ko-man's Village to kill him and scalp him especially those the Pallagers at Leech Lake who never afraid to the Chi-mo-Ko-man.

The other day when I had a trip by the Great Northern Railroad they refused my half fare permit and so I paid full

fare then. And they told me no one
shall allowed to pay half fare
any more on this road. And
how is that about etc (So. Line)
is it etc same way? as I got a
Pass on that road, shall I return
it?

And I will try to go to see you
this Spring as I never forget
it that I had promised to give
my father's picture to the Historical
Society I nearly finish it.

That is all at present, with
my best wishes ^{and} best regards
to you. Trust your friend

Chas T. Wright.

Aa-tho-ta.

Class Sale

Indian Mission

May 14th 1907.

479 Laurel av.,

St. Paul, April 23/07.

Brother Holcomb:

How happens it that your name is not in the city directory? I have to use strategy to get you. Mr. Chaney tells me you are at the historical society's rooms nearly all the time, so I'll try addressing you there. I am anxious to avail myself of your fund of reminiscences. A New York newspaper syndicate has called on me to furnish an instance of some man ~~now living~~ who long ago pulled off some big stunt in the way of a public work or service, and who is now living in obscurity and practically forgotten. I am also asked to furnish a good fishing story with a man of ^(living) national reputation as the central figure. I am not confined to the Northwest, so if you can help me to some good stuff of the character desired I don't care ~~where~~ where the place of occurrence was--in Missouri, Timbuctoo or what not. Again, the Kansas City Star wants short Sunday features, illustrated, if possible, on novel things and reminiscences. Can't we work your Missouri recollections to good advantage? If anything comes of it I shall be glad to "go snucks" with you on receipts.

Where and when can I see you? I hold out at 508 Pioneer Press building at night, ^{and in the afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30.} Please give me your house address on inclosed card.

"Thanking you in advance," also in the rear, and relying upon your generous nature as "a good Union man," I am

Sincerely yours,

John T. Sullivan

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 25, 1907.

Dear Sir:

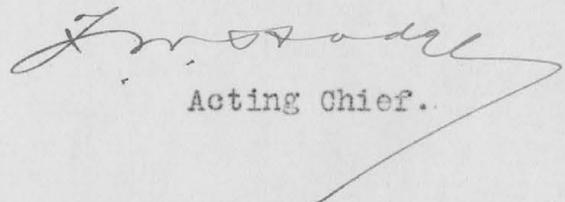
Please pardon the delay in responding to your courteous letter of the 13th instant, and accept our thanks for your interest, especially in the biographical sketches of the Minnesota Indians.

We shall be very glad indeed to have any additional biographies of Indians of note, and any corrections in the present articles that you may make, with a view to their incorporation in a revised edition, which, it is hoped, will be undertaken as soon as Part 2 of the present edition is published.

I have looked into the origin of the photograph of "Little Crow the Younger," and find that it is from one of our own negatives, made by William H. Jackson of the Hayden Survey between 1869 and 1877. I am having a print of this as well as of a companion picture made. These will be sent to you for deposit in the Minnesota Historical Society.

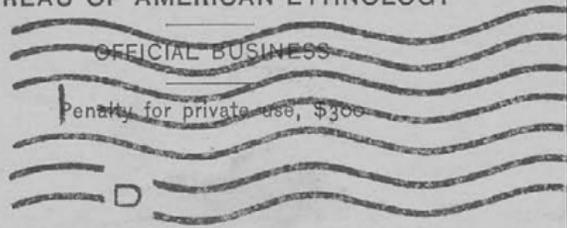
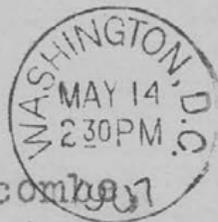
Again thanking you, I am,

Very truly yours,


Acting Chief.

Mr. R. I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY



Mr R. I. Holcomb

St Paul, Minnesota.

Minnesota Hist. Society.

(OVER)

13-48

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY

WASHINGTON, D. C., -----

MAY 13 1907

SIR:

Recd May 16
I send to your address by mail this day copies of the publications named on the attached card.

Please acknowledge their receipt in the place indicated, detach the card, which requires no postage, and return it to this Bureau by the first mail after the receipt of the publications.

Very respectfully,

W. H. HOLMES,

Chief.

Sent at the request of-----

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 9, 1907.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 29th ultimo, I beg leave to say that the titles given on the photographs sent to you for the Minnesota Historical Society are merely copies of those given by Jackson in his "Descriptive Catalogue of Photographs of North American Indians," Miscellaneous Publication No. 9 of the Hayden Survey, published in 1877. We are not positive regarding the date of the photographs, which may have been made much earlier than 1869, as the Catalogue, it is now observed, states that the collection of photographs was made from life or from old daguerreotypes during a period of ^{twenty-five} years.

I should like very much to have the matter of the Little Crow portraits and biographic sketch settled definitely in time for a second edition of the Handbook, and thank you for your kind offer of assistance.

A copy of the Handbook will be sent to you.

Yours very truly,



Mr. R. I. Holcombe,

Chief.

St. Paul, Minnesota.

Minnesota State Training School

For Boys and Girls

FAMILY MANAGERS

W. E. SCOTT, Family A
GEO. E. SHAW, Family B
W. W. AMIDON, Cottage One
AXEL OLSON, Cottage Two
J. A. SMITH, Cottage Three
Miss EDITH A. KASSING, Matron Girls' Dep't
Miss CORABELLE SILL, Assist. Matron Girls' Dep't

Executive Officers

F. A. WHITTIER, SUPERINTENDENT
H. W. GEORGE, ASSIST. SUPT.
A. E. WILLARD, STEWARD
GRACE JOHNSTON, STATE AGENT

BOARD OF CONTROL

HON. P. M. RINGDAL,
CHAIRMAN,
HON. S. W. LEAVETT, LITCHFIELD
HON. L. A. ROSING, ST. PAUL
M. C. CUTTER, ST. PAUL
SECRETARY

RED WING, MINN. 5/13/07.

Mr. Robert Holcomb,
c/o State Historical Society,
State Capitol, St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Mr. Holcomb:-

We are expecting you to visit this Institution some time during the latter part of this month and give the boys and girls a talk. You are at liberty to select your date to suit yourself. We of course, would like to have you come at ^{or} ~~or~~ near Decoration day as convenient. When you are in Red Wing, we should expect you to make your home here at the Institution. I wish that you might come and stay for some little time, so as to look us over and see what we are trying to do.

As to the subject matter of your talk, you are at liberty to say anything although I think some of your anecdotes and experiences of early days especially at or during the war would be very interesting to them. I leave the matter, however, in your own hands.

Our boys and girls can be assembled on short notice at any time so make the day the most convenient to you.

Yours very truly,

F. A. Whittier
Superintendent.

Winona

Dear Col Holcombe

May 15-1907

Your valued favor of the 9th gave me information on matters of which I was not informed. The roads were mostly Charters-Memorials etc, and did not materialize in the early times. For instance a road to the Missouri river in 1854. The expense to be paid by the counties thro which it passed, would be but small remuneration in that early day. The population was limited and settlements sparse. A road was surveyed & worked

from Fort Ridgely west towards
 the big Sioux. I think when
 Medaris was gov. They made
 a corduroy across the bottom
 opposite the fort - & graded the
 bluff in a way - Wm. H. Noble
 had charge of construction -
 The towns of Flandrau, & Madina
 were on this road. I don't
 recollect where Fort Aux Cedre
 was located. Some old map in
 the Historical Society would show
 it. I suppose the reason
 McChesny kept the bill to
 pension the Indian war survivors
 was because Brown County voters
 voted for the other fellow -

The bill vetoed by the Gov,
was a fright. I am greatly
pleased with the improvements
for the park at Fort Ridgely.

I was not aware of its scope
or existence until you informed
me, and I am also interested
in having you to boss the
job - your suggestions in the
way of improvements strike me
as just the proper thing - and
I hope the remnant of the Comm
building will be preserved for
the purpose you recommend.

I vote for you to superintend
the ornamentation of the landscape
I will go up and look at it when
over

you get through. It is a dear
old place in the memory
of other days of long ago.

I thank you for writing
me -

Sincerely & truly yours

BHRandall

Minneapolis, Minn. May 17 1907:

Dear Major H.:

My query as to how Schoolcraft got ^{to} Snelling in 1825, was I see, occasioned by a careless reading of page 206 of Vol. 6. Minn. Hist. Coll.

It is clear enough on careful reading to see that Schoolcraft had his Miss. Chips. taken down by the traders named, and himself proceeded directly to P. du Ch. I should guess that he arrived by the Fox-Wis. route. No reply is necessary. Please be thanked for your answers to my catena. I sent off my last copy yesterday. School's out.

Maj. R.I. Holcombe,
Saint Paul, Minn.

A. N. Folwell

I had a call last week from young Mr. Allison of Henderson Grandson of J.R.B. Handsome young fellow and will take a law course here next year. He has little exact knowledge of his grandfather. He thinks there may be papers in the garret of the house at Henderson, and will look.

I have found out that Col. J.H. Stevens had at one time a diary of Martin McLeod. I will try to get hold of it, if accessible.

No. _____

R. J. Holcombe

STENOGRAPHER

1414 C, 10th

From _____ 190_____

To _____ 190_____



No. 6118.

The First National Bank

CAPITAL \$ 50,000.00.
SURPLUS & PROFITS \$ 8,000.00.

P. E. HANSON, President. B. F. NELSON, 2^d Vice Pres.
E. P. PETERSON, 1st Vice Pres. HARRY A. HANSON, Asst. Cash.
A. W. KRON, Cashier.

Litchfield, Minn. April 3, 1908.

Mr. R. J. Holmcombe,
Care of Historical Society of St. Paul,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

I take great pleasure in giving you such information as you desire so far as I am able to do so.

Regarding the description of the land and location where the first Indian massacre occurred will state that Jones and his wife, who was formerly Miss Baker, were both killed on the east half of the north-east quarter together with Mr. Baker, and Mr. Webster an old gentleman and a young lady Clara D. Wilson, in the Jones house in section the southeast of the northwest. All of the above land described is located in section 21, township 119, range 32. The distance between the two homes was only about half a mile and it was all in the same section which is about four miles due south of Grove City and about 12 miles from Litchfield in a southwesterly direction.

In regard to the cemetery where those victims were buried so called then as well as now the Ness Church. The church and cemetery are on the southwest of the southwest of section twenty-119-31 on the west side of that forty. This is where all those five were buried in one grave and a few years later when William M. Campbell was in the senate he got an appropriation from the state to the amount of \$500.00 for a monument to be placed over their grave which remains there to day as the day it was put up, with the names of the victims, their ages and also the location where they were brought up from childhood.

I was here in 1857 and knew the victims ~~in~~ intimately, as at the Jones house was our post office.

Mrs. Baker who escaped the terrible ordeal I understand is still living but I am unable to give you her address where she now resides.

In regard to Clara Willson will say that I am not clear as to whether she was the niece of Mr. Jones or his adopted daughter.

Trusting that this little information may help you out in your researches, I remain,

Very truly yours,

P. E. Hanson



THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

NATHANIEL P. LANGFORD,
President.
WARREN UPHAM,
Secretary and Librarian.

DAVID L. KINGSBURY,
JOSIAH B. CHANEY,
Assistant Librarians.

St. Paul, Minn. April 15, 1908.

Mr. R. I. Holcombe, St. Paul, Minn.,

Dear Sir:--

In a meeting of all the Board of editors of Minnesota in Three Centuries, held yesterday, with Mr. Holcombe, principal compiler of this work, also present, much regret was expressed because a large part, 150 pages or more, of its Volume II has been finally printed without revision of the typewritten manuscript or of any of its proofs by the editors or by Mr. Holcombe. To guard better for the further printing, that this work may be acceptable to its subscribers and creditable to the editors and the state, the Board of Editors unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That all the typewritten manuscripts for the history entitled "Minnesota in Three Centuries," before being supplied to the printer, and also both the galley proofs and the page proofs of that work, are to be submitted to at least two of the Board of Editors, namely, Gen. James H. Baker and Warren Upham, to be carefully examined by them and by Mr. R. I. Holcombe; and that said typewritten manuscripts and galley proofs are to receive their approval before proceeding in the successive stages of printing.

Resolved further, That a series of the printed forms of this work, for each of its four volumes, is to be supplied to each member of its Board of Editors, that is, one copy of all the printed forms to each editor, as fast as the printing goes forward, for editorial comparison as the work advances, and for final indexing; and that each volume is to have an index at its end, to be supplied by Mr. Upham for the editors.

According to request of the editors, each of them receives a copy of this letter, which likewise is sent to Mr. Holmes, Mr. Holcombe, and Mr. F. W. Hunt, Free Press printing Co., Mankato.

Truly yours,

Warren Upham,

Secretary.



THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.



Prof. R. J. Holcombe

*of State Historical
Society*

Saint Paul, Minn.

ST. PAUL, MINN., May 16th, 1907

COMRADE:

You have been assigned to attend the ANTE-MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES of
the Whittier School, at Albemarle & Maygate
on Friday, the 24th inst., at 2.30 P. M.

It is earnestly desired that you report promptly to the principal of the school as above, and that you do not fail to perform this very important and pleasant duty.

Teachers and scholars take great interest in these exercises and prepare good programs for the entertainment of their visitors. Your failure to attend, even if you do not speak, will greatly disappoint them. Your committee believes that you will willingly perform this duty.

The talks should be short and to the point on any subject relating to patriotism and good citizenship. Interesting personal reminiscences, not too long, of notable deeds and men, would please your audience. Wear uniform, if you have one.

Please fill out and mail, without delay, the attached card, in order that your committee may know what to depend upon.

JAMES SANTONG,
Chairman School Committee.



ST. PAUL, MINN.
MAY 20
8-PM.
1907



THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

Mr. R. J. Holcombe
of State Historical
Society
Saint Paul, Minn.

COMRADE:

Bates Ave Conway

ST. PAUL, MINN., May 16th, 1907

You have been assigned to attend the ANTE-MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES of
the *Van Buren* School, at *Bates W. + Conway*
on Friday, the 24th inst., at *10.30a.* M.

It is earnestly desired that you report promptly to the principal of the school as above, and that you do not fail to perform this very important and pleasant duty.

Teachers and scholars take great interest in these exercises and prepare good programs for the entertainment of their visitors. Your failure to attend, even if you do not speak, will greatly disappoint them. Your committee believes that you will willingly perform this duty.

The talks should be short and to the point on any subject relating to patriotism and good citizenship. Interesting personal reminiscences, not too long, of notable deeds and men, would please your audience. Wear uniform, if you have one.

Please fill out and mail, without delay, the attached card, in order that your committee may know what to depend upon.

JAMES SANTONG,
Chairman School Committee.



ABSOLUTELY FIREPROOF
EUROPEAN PLAN

Lexington Hotel

MICHIGAN BOULEVARD AND 22ND STREET

INTER-STATE HOTEL CO., PROPRIETORS

ALSO THE COATES HOUSE
KANSAS CITY, MO.

May 16 1908
CHICAGO,

Dear Major Halcomb

I have for a few days
visiting my sister. met
Mr Irvin A. Martin living in
the hotel eight years. he is a
son of Matthias Martin
Columbus Ohio. Indian
Agt 1857 under Buchanan
knowing of your work. I thought
two families might have letters
or something bearing on points
you might like to know. if
not. Make just the same
Mr Martin calls Sindatka



Lexington Hotel

MICHIGAN BOULEVARD AND 22ND STREET

INTER-STATE HOTEL CO., PROPRIETORS

ALSO THE COATES HOUSE
KANSAS CITY, MO.

ABSOLUTELY FIREPROOF
EUROPEAN PLAN

CHICAGO, _____ 190

2

and Wynman Patridge. As
I gave him the Name of
Hon Wm P. Murray R. A. Smith
as man that would probably
remember his father, and you
as the Man of record.

Congratulations, when
were you May 11th

Sincerely

Wm H. Hazard
664 Gilfillan Block

TELEPHONES:
N. W. NICOLLET 433
TRI-STATE 207

L. W. COLLINS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
SUITE 326 SECURITY BANK BUILDING
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

June 29th, 1908.

Maj. Holcomb
State Historical Rooms,
State Capital,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Major:

I enclose to you a letter received from Capt. Champlin which please read and return to me.

I think he has matters in shape except his wrong spelling of Perrault's name and that he has done undoubtedly from Minnesota in Civil War.

Make such suggestions as you think ought to be made along the lines of our talk the other day. I shall be glad to hear from you soon.

Yours truly,



TELEPHONES
N. W. NICOLLET 433
TRI-STATE 207

L. W. COLLINS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
SUITE 326 SECURITY BANK BUILDING
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

August 10, 1908.



Major E. J. Holcombe,
State Capital,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Major:

I enclose to you a letter which I have just received and wish it returned when read so that I may answer it. You have gone over all of the literature there is concerning the hanging of the Indians. Will you give me your opinion as to the best article for me to refer Mr. Eldridge to for the information he desires? He speaks meeting a comrade who was present at the hanging as an orderly to Gen. Sibley. Some fellow has been stuffing him, for Gen. Sibley was not present at the time.

I should be glad to hear from you at the earliest convenience.

Yours truly,

Collins

Holcombe clippings on the
Secret War

1908

ST. PAUL, MINN., May 16th, 1907

COMRADE:

You have been assigned to attend the ANTE-MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES of
the Jefferson School, at Pleasant Av.
on Friday, the 24th inst., at 2 P. M.

It is earnestly desired that you report promptly to the principal of the school as above, and that you do not fail to perform this very important and pleasant duty.

Teachers and scholars take great interest in these exercises and prepare good programs for the entertainment of their visitors. Your failure to attend, even if you do not speak, will greatly disappoint them. Your committee believes that you will willingly perform this duty.

The talks should be short and to the point on any subject relating to patriotism and good citizenship. Interesting personal reminiscences, not too long, of notable deeds and men, would please your audience. Wear uniform, if you have one.

Please fill out and mail, without delay, the attached card, in order that your committee may know what to depend upon.

JAMES SANTONG,
Chairman School Committee.



THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

ST. PAUL, MINN.
MAY 21
5 30 PM
1901



Prof. R. S. Holcombe

Historical }
Society }

W. B. Ware
Jr.

ST. PAUL, MINN., May 16th, 1907

COMRADE:

You have been assigned to attend the ANTE-MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES of
the Monroe School, at Goodhue & Washburn
on Friday, the 24th inst., at 1.30 P.M.

It is earnestly desired that you report promptly to the principal of the school as above, and that you do not fail to perform this very important and pleasant duty.

Teachers and scholars take great interest in these exercises and prepare good programs for the entertainment of their visitors. Your failure to attend, even if you do not speak, will greatly disappoint them. Your committee believes that you will willingly perform this duty.

The talks should be short and to the point on any subject relating to patriotism and good citizenship. Interesting personal reminiscences, not too long, of notable deeds and men, would please your audience. Wear uniform, if you have one.

Please fill out and mail, without delay, the attached card, in order that your committee may know what to depend upon.

JAMES SANTONG,
Chairman School Committee.



THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.



Prof. R. I. Holcombe,

Historical Society

St Paul
Minn