



[Return I. Holcombe Papers.](#)

Copyright Notice:

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit www.mnhs.org/copyright.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 18/5.
Maj. R. J. Holcomb. St. Paul,

Dear Sir: your oblige, imparting information as to tablets, monuments & buffalo for which I thank you. I would be glad to receive a copy of the paper containing your article on the buffalo.

I am tracing the bison's disappearance from the western states. In 1873 I moved among herds so vast as to cover the plains as far as the eye could reach. I am working on a book on the Indians, mound Builders & Cliff-dwellers which I hope to see published before I die. Something over 100 pages I shall well be desirous of the massacre of 1862. Though I was not in it, I have 6 books on the uprising, I have carefully gleaned, compared, revised & adjusted, until I think my chapters on the massacre, will be an addition of historical value.

I want to drop off at New Ulm
& look in every monument & take
side between New Ulm & Brown's
Valley & then continue to the
Coast. Last March I was
in New Ulm but I was
too cold to 'hang' over
the sites of R.N. lines. I
would want to visit every his-
toric spot - so far as that could
well be done.

You say that I could not hold
a case now in St. Paul unless I
could operate a typewriter. I
no you are right. I could not. I am
out of the game. '60 Angus has
slackened my pace but one thing
I can yet do. I can speak the
Swedish language yet, & I believe

I have spent 44 years of my life in
contact with the American Indian. I have
lived & traveled among every tribe of in-
dians nearly 50 in all between the
mountains of the Pacific British
America & Mexico. In '1873 I lived
among the Sioux in north Dakota
& the Cheyennes in ruin. my first
trip to St. Paul was in 1872. I have
been there on various occasions,
since, worked there as a printer in
1879.

For many years it has been my custom
to spend the summer among the Indians.
I did this even in the days of the war
for I was buffalo hunting. Have col-
lected almost ~~4400~~ 45000 spec-
imens of their handicraft.

This coming Spring I hope to start
for the western Pacific Coast,
then down to San Diego.

I could still eat dogmeat
with a buffalo horn spoon
out of a wooden dish
or hop in the Sioux dance
as I once did on the
Sioux River perhaps
15 miles west of where
Pipstone now stands.

Was Brower a bachelor?
In what year did he die?
Trusting I have not burdened
you, I am,

Truly

A. H. Galtchell

250 Hummel St.

M. P. Satterlee.

Office: 221 First Street North.

Residence: 4849 Emerson Ave. S.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Friday April 9, 1915.

Maj. R. I. Holcombe,
372 E. 10th Street,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Major: For many weeks I have been trying to get a day in St. Paul, when I could see you and ask for information on certain points. But my historical work is a side line, and business has prevented. In this case you can imagine that I was much pleased to get the marked pamphlet which you sent me, and I want to thank you for it. There are some of the corrections I would like to ask you about, for instance the number of Indians at Acton, which you have marked four instead of six. My reason for the six, is: Many people who lived in the vicinity ^{at the time} declare there were six--The Kandiyohi Co., History gives six--Eckland whose horses were stolen, says four came to the house and took the men out and away so that others stole the horses while they were talking with the four--It is common report that Indians were seen going toward the agency that Sunday, two on each horse and one running behind hanging to the tail--lastly Rev. Pond names Hdi-na-pi and Wam-du-pi-dan as participating, and all accounts give the four others. This looks like a case to me, though Solomon Two Stars says Pa-zā-i-yapa (Runs against a picket stake), was not at the murders.

Of Peter Bourrier, I should have said afterward of the 10th Regt. I cannot see the reason for his trying to get to the Coulie as it was filled with Indians--he must have been panic stricken.

Regarding the Andrew Jewett family--Judge Buck says 1865, and there is a history of the Welsh in Minnesota, from which he quotes in his book published some years ago.

As to Joseph Kellene, I went to school with a daughter and spelled it as she did. The pronunciation seemed more like "Clean", but they

FISHER PAPER BOX CO.



MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

were a class hardly to be called authority, even in the spelling of their own name.

Andreas Lorentson, was a Swede, born in Hillared, Sweden, and I am inclined to question the "zen" which you give.

Glad I am not the only one to quote Hi-u-ka instead of Hink-pa.

Regarding Hazen Mooer, there are several instances of this kind, as Charles Blair, Mrs. VanGuilder, Minnie Smith, etc. I hope to get the data even if I do not use it in the list.

I am glad to get your endorsement of the death of Lathrop Dickinson as Sam'l J. Brown had just claimed it as you state, also that the head was thrown on the manure pile back of the barn. He says he was told this by the Indians, and believed it. But it is the only mention of him, and at least one history says all the family escaped, while the others infer it.

Again thanking you for information, I am,

Respectfully yours,

Marion P. Satterlee

One thing I wanted to ask was "who perpetrated a joke" in the Chippewa monument at Morton. Till I saw your comment in print, I supposed it was for Maza-mani who was shot down while carrying a flag of truce at Wood Lake.

M. P. Satterlee.

Office: 221 First Street North.
Residence: 4849 Emerson Ave. S.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Killing of Thomas Smith, Sr.
By Medawakanton Sioux on August 15, 1862.
Story given by Thos. Smith, Jr., June 1915.
To Mrs. B. K. Postlethwaite, Minneapolis.

Thos. Smith Sr., came to Minnesota in 1856 and lived at Reskester, on a farm about 8 miles north of city. Went to Elysian, LeSueur Co., then to Brown County settling on the Cottonwood river near New Ulm, in the place owned by "Dutch Charley" at time of the massacre. In April 1859 settled near the Sharen's (afterward LaFrambois family) about four miles below Fort Ridgely. July 5th, 1861 he enlisted in Capt. Skaro's Co. E, 2d Minn. Vol. Infantry. He contracted rheumatism and was discharged June 1, 1862. Came back to Minn. and brought his family from Paducah ~~Ky.~~ Ky., and took a claim near LaCroix Creek in the river bottom, at foot of Birch Coulee, two miles below Merton. Was going on his claim in a maver's wagon on Aug. 17, 1862, and as the weather was extremely hot and the flies bad, left his cattle at Christian Schlumberger's place at Three Mile Creek, and the son John stayed also. Himself, wife, son William and ~~and~~ babe Mary 5 years old going on to the claim. Next morning at daybreak, with the son William, he started back to bring in the cattle before the heat of day, and had gone about a quarter mile beyond the Wagner homes, (John in old house, Edward new house being builded), when he was overtaken by a Frenchman escaping from the Agency who told him "the Indians were killing all the people at the Agency". They turned back toward the family at the claim, but William meeting one of the Wagner boys stepped to talk with him. On starting to catch up with his father he saw three naked Indians coming up a ravine ahead of him and he ran back toward the fort, and soon overtook John Hese and they kept on, being chased by the Indians who shot after them, but by keeping in the brush they escaped. William says he passed a Swede and his family in a maver's wagon and tried to warn them, but he thinks that they did not understand him. The woman afterward got to the fort with one child. (This was undoubtedly the Ole Samsen family). William and Hese got to the fort in safety. John went to the fort with Schalumberger and a German who warned them. Thomas after leaving his son William, got as far as the Wagner place, and seeing some men about approached them when they proved to be Indians and instantly killed him with tomahawks. Mrs. Smith and the five-year old Mary were warned by refugees who came to the wagon, and started for the fort. When they reached the top of the Faribault hill they met three men one of whom was Edward Wagner, (the others probably David McGenell and Patrick Kelly), and asked them if it was safe to travel in the road. They told Mrs. Smith to go into Wagner's cornfield as soon as she reached that point, which she did. The babe becoming hungry and crying for food she went into a small shack near Wagner's, where she found some cold potatoes for it. While there a white man came and warned her to go and hide in the brush, as the Indians would come to the cabin. Before dark she determined to go to the fort, as the mosquitoes were unbearable. She went boldly down the road and when about three miles from the fort was picked up by some refugees with a team and taken in. Mrs. Smith says that Capt. Marsh's command passed about 11 o'clock. This would seem to make the hour of battle at the Ferry about 1 o'clock, which has been a long mooted question. Thomas the son who relates this story, was employed in the family of Major (afterward Brig.-Gen.) Morris, U. S. A., at Baltimore, Md. p.

Dear Major: This is a correction of the story I sent you a few days since. I submitted my version and found a few corrections as you will observe. I think I have eliminated and straightened it now to nearly as correct as is possible to obtain it.

Satterlee

THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SAINT PAUL

WARREN UPHAM
ARCHAEOLOGIST

St. Paul, May 21, 1915.

Major R. I. Holcombe,
372 East Tenth St., Saint Paul,

Dear Sir:

According to advice of Captain Durant, President, and Mr. Larpen-
teur, Secretary, of the Old Settlers' Association of Minnesota, they will
hold their 58th Annual Meeting in the Old Capitol, St. Paul, on Tuesday,
June 1, at noon, to be followed by a Dinner at the Merchants' Hotel, in
the time-honored custom of former years. Will you plan to be present?

The following are the Old Settlers, the men of 1849 or earlier,
whom we hope to see on June 1:

Caleb D. Dorr, and Eli Pettijohn, of Minnespølis; Auguste L.
Larpenteur of St. Paul; John Daubney, of Taylor's Falls;
and Captain Edward W. Durant, of Charleston, S.C., now
visiting at his former home in Stillwater.

There are also four Honorary Members, who are likewise requested
to be present at this meeting, namely, Captain Robert A. Plumer, of
Minneapolis; and Enoch F. Berrisford, John A. Stees, and the undersigned,
of St. Paul.

Invitations are sent to all these Old Settlers and Honorary
Members; and also to Hon. George H. Hazzard, Secretary of the Minnesota
Territorial Pioneers, St. Paul, Major Edwin Clark, Secretary of the
Hennepin County Territorial Pioneers, Minneapolis, and to a few other
friends of former Old Settlers who have died.

Please reply that you expect to be at this Annual Meeting.

Truly yours,

Warren Upham

Assistant Secretary.

REPORT

of the Condition of the FIRST NATIONAL BANK at McINTOSH, Minn.
At the close of business, June 23rd, 1915.

RESOURCES.		LIABILITIES.	
Loans & Discounts, U. S.		Capital Stock paid in.....	\$25,000.00
Bonds, other bonds and securities	\$205,158.62	Surplus and Undivided	
Overdratts	118.96	Profits.....	5,367.03
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	900.00	Circulating notes	25,000.00
Banking house furniture and fixtures.....	11,300.00	Bonds to secure postal savings	2,000.00
Other Real Estate.....	1,500.00		
Cash on hand in Banks U. S. Treasury and Federal Reserve Bank	33,859.35	Deposits	195,469.90
	<u>\$ 252,836.93</u>		<u>\$252,836.93</u>
C. M. BERG, President.		K. K. HOFFARD, Vice President.	
		GEO. A. BEITO, Cashier.	

1st National Bank
M. J. Juttsch

Organized originally
1889 as private Bank
The 1st M. J. Juttsch
& James & S. W. Drew.
Being reorganized under
State Charter 1895-
Jan 1, with different
additional stockholders
Cap. \$10,000
with - E. W. Drew & P. L.
S. W. Drew Cash & W. H.
presided -
In Jan 1, 1903 converted
into National Bank under
present name.

Capital 25000

Surplus 5000

Officers
J. B. Short P. X
John Peterson J. P. X
S. W. Drew Cash

Stockholders, all local
C. M. Berg Asst Cash
~~Hon. P. M. Ringdal~~

Short was succeeded
by W. F. Rieckhoff as
Off and he in turn
by Hon. P. M. Ringdal
Aug 4, 1910. Who
continued till
he was succeeded by
C. M. Berg Jan 10, 1911

KK Haffard & P
Cush Geo & Bento

Bank Bldg erected 1913
Cost including fly-
lines safety & belts
1130 d.

1st
National
Bank
McIntosh

18. Newwood Parkway) St. Paul. Minn.

Major Holcombe, July 3, 1915

My dear Sir: —

If you will kindly write me the persons, and things you wish me to tell about, I might be enabled to help just a little, in my own poor way, tho' I have not considered, ^{at} my best forte recounting tales of forgotten lore, and of those brave men and women, who lived when the country was a wilderness, and who played no small part in the North-west building up, and were making history without a thought of it. It is a labor of love, to —

relate their splendid achievements, and
the tales that come up from the
misty past, fill our mind -
and heart. I want to thank
you, who in the kindness of your
heart sympathized with me -

about the malignant things written,
or rather, I should say, ^{me} published in
the Pioneer-Press about my father.

It takes a manly man to sympathize
- ^{ing} with one in such a case, some
world think it "very smart."
One should tell of the splendid ac-
chievement of the early settlers;

not harp on the ill side, of any
of their lives. We are sons and
daughters of the great King
whose law was one of kindness
love, and mercy. Why should

His people tear each other -
(like wild animals) to pieces.

Captain Durant, is just fine,
noble and kind, in my heart
there will always be a tender
spot for him, for his loyalty
to me. I will always remember his
"kind sympathy" - as told by you. Thank
you. We are here for such a brief
time; to-day is all we possess, why
should we be down of the love of charity, never

Plures its charas' I will enclose a
little sketch of my Uncle Joe,
which I came across recently. I
wonder if you would care for it.
Uncle Joe, was my father's half
brother, and was younger than he.
He was a most loyal friend to the
Indians, one of the best they ever
had - he took their interests at heart,
His mother, was grandfather Charles
Robert, of St Louis, second wife, father's
mother, Jeannette Courtois, having died,
when my father was a young lad, after she died,
he grew restless, and drifted away from home.
Uncle Joe and father, were like full blooded
brothers, it made no difference, being half brothers
His mother (uncle Joe's) was a Miss Motier,
cousin of General de Fayette, my
grandmother, on the maternal side, was con-
nected with the Motier's, and so, Uncle Joe,
was my mother's cousin, as well as brother-in-
law. Respectfully yours, Jeanne R. Lamprey

A sketch of Joseph Robert.

"The Reverend J. B. Starkey hailed me on the street yesterday and gave me this story of the late Joseph Robert, as illustrative not only of the man's love of humanity, but his wonderful discernment of character ^{in Robert's} those he selected to befriend. "About nine years ago, said the minister, "I preached a sermon in the Methodist church at Grand Forks. After meeting, I went home with one of the church members, a broad-shouldered, big-hearted Pennsylvania Dutch-man by the name of Reeves. I was delighted, not only with the pretty home, but the genial-hospitality on the part of my host, hostess and their family that gave it a fine flavor.

On being shown to the spare bed-room that night I saw written prominently over the door the name "Joseph Robert." I asked Reeves the meaning of this, and he explained to me as follows:

"Joseph Robert," he said, "I consider myaviour, so far as earthly interests are concerned, and I always want my children and my grandchildren to keep his name in loving remembrance. A number of

years ago I found myself in a condition
of the utmost destitution — without work,
without money, and on the verge of des-
pair. I met Joseph Robert riding in a
buggy out on the prairie, and he stopped
me to inquire the road. He immediately
saw that I was in trouble, and in the most kind-
ly manner asked me if I was out of work.
I explained to him my condition, he all
the time looking me squarely in the eye. He
at once gave me \$10⁰⁰ and said he would
get me work. My trade was that of a Caller.
On returning to St. Paul my friend did not
forget me. He told Commodore Pittsore
that he had a friend who wanted the job
of calling his boats up country, saying
that he would ^{be} responsible if the work was
not done satisfactorily. I got that job at \$5⁰⁰
per day. That was the beginning of my prosper-
ity. I am now in good circumstances, and have
a happy home. I shall always cherish the mem-
ory of the man who put me on the way to it
and was so kindly. The most remarkable part
of the story," continued the minister, "is that he should
have trusted and befriended an entire stranger, and one
withal who happened to be so worthy of assistance." I
have sometimes made use of this incident with ^{calling effects} in my
sermons.

July 21st, 1915.

Captain J. N. Searles,
Stillwarter, Minn.

Dear Captain:

Enclosed find express receipt for the manuscript that I expressed to you today. This as far as I can ascertain is the entire balance. It has been in Taylor's possession all winter or since you sent it to him.

I would request that you have the lady that you have employed for this work to go through this, the same as that part you have sent me, which I have gone through pretty thoroughly. The cutting out and erasing leaves the original work rather badly disconnected.

Since you were here, I have had a conference with Judge Smith, also in correspondence with Lewis, who proves to be the nephew of Samuel Lilly. He is ready to take the work, and I don't question his ability, but his distance from the twin cities seems that we are unable to avail ourselves of his services. I think we could have the services of Judge Smith if we want him. I have also since you were here had an interview with Holcombe and gone over the work thoroughly, and I am convinced in my own mind that he is the best and most available man for us to have to complete this work after the lady that you have working on it, his through with it. As he is the writer and author of the original he is familiar with the work, and he is not only has full knowledge of this work, but his general knowledge is good. He has had considerable experience in editorial and printing.

Mr. Taylor was in this morning. He is in ill health and has been under the weather more or less since our last meeting, and he

(2).

7/21/15.

is very anxious and urges that we should keep at ~~it~~ work on the history until it is completed. Consequently I have written for Holcombe to come up and I intend to make arrangement with him to take the first two sections which you have passed on and have them out together in good form ready for the printer, then hold up the work until we have an opportunity to go through what he has done, scrutinize it and pass on it. I have requested for Holcombe to be here Saturday. If you have any suggestions, I would be pleased to hear from you.

In covering this part it will probably cover from 100 to 150 pages and if it is not up to standard of our notion and satisfaction we can have it changed and the expense will not be very much. My opinion is that we should push this work as rapidly as we can, consistently get it ready for the printer. Mr. Holcombe is located at the capitol, close in touch with the historical society and all matters of record and it seems to me he is well equipped for completing this work under our supervision and general inspection.

When we get ready for the printer or editorial work, completing of the balance is an easy matter. ~~we~~ ^{we} can take care of that part of it as well as any one. My idea is that after we settle on the character of the type, and fix the paper, binding, and size, we open it up then to competition of the printing companies of the Twin Cities and nearby towns. You refer to a concern in your city. There is no reason why they should not have an opportunity of bidding on the work. When we get it ready for the printing, we will know just exactly what amount of money we have to spend and I am in hopes ~~it may~~ the money on hand will enable us to complete the work or so near that we will not

(3).

7/21/15.

be obliged to hold it up.

Yours very truly,

C. B. HEFFELFINGER.

CBH/HEC.

Minneapolis, August 4, 1915:

My dear Major:

I have turned up a note on letters in Sibley's Letter books. On Oct. 10, 1849 He wrote Lowry at Long Prairie that they had settled with Rice. "We have dissolved partnership," he says.

Argal, there could not have been any Fur issue between Sibley and Rice in 1848, could there?

I find repeated warnings to the House ^{of Chouteau & Co.} in the early fall of 1849, to watch out for Rice, and demands that some one be sent up to investigate Rice.

Sibley repeatedly charges or insinuates that Rice has been using the money of the House in his private operations. In another letter to Lowry of the same date as above Sibley says: "Rice has appropriated much money to his own use...has advanced large sums to irresponsible persons."

Writing to J.H. Mc Kenney Oct. 10, /49 Sibley says his share of the loss on Rice's outfit will be \$25,000 No; will exceed \$25,000.

On Aug. 8, 1849 Sibley writes Chouteaus that Rice and Borup have "made an arrangement for the Chippeway trade," Rice 5/8, Borup, 3/8.

June 20, 1849 Sibley writes Chouteaus, "he (Rice) has this day removed to St. Paul, where he says it is necessary for the business that he be located. In this I partly agree with him.....You will probably say that he should have decided upon this measure before a building was erected for him here."

Sept. 5, 1849 Sibley writes Chouteaus, that Borup had been lately taken in on account of Rice's "utterly loose and uncertain mode of transacting business:"

I am fierce to trace Rice's career if possible. According to Williams he was sutler at Fort Snelling in '39 and to June '40 when he went to Fort Atkinson to be sutler. Soon after became connected with the Chouteaus and had charge of trade with Chippewas and Winnebagoes. We have plenty of information in regard to his trade &c. with the Winnebagoes. I find no particulars of Chippewa trade in the middle '40's. At some time he seems to have entered into "partnership" with Sibley and resided at Mendota. I want the dates. Where did Rice live from '42 till he came to reside at Mendota. Williams says p. 187 that business compelled Rice to spend a large share of his time in St. Paul, but adds a sentence indicating that such time was after the town was laid out.

I guess that Rice must have spent a good deal of time in St. Paul before the summer of '48, or he could not have aspired to the delegacy against Sibley in the fall of that year.

The arrangement between Rice and Borup on August 8, '49 does not necessarily mean that Rice was entering for the first time on the Chp. Trade.

I have made the above notations in some haste amid interruptions. As usual I appeal to you when I get stuck, and I don't remember that you ever failed to help me out of the mire.

So I remain yours gratefully,

Folwell.

Minneapolis, Minn. August 10.1915

Dear Major:

Many thanks for your long letter just received. I sent a postal yesterday afternoon in which I kicked myself for having overlooked Marshall's obituary of Rice in the 9th volume of M.H.C. I am disposed to rely on Marshall. He evidently took much pains to get the facts. Probably consulted with Mrs. Rice. She however would not know much of what R. had been doing before 1949.

From Marshall it may be inferred that Rice was living at P. du Ch. 1842 to 47, where Brisbois & Rice had an outfitting store. If so doubtless, he spent much of his time at Fort Atkinson. Otherwise he could not have got so thick with the Winnsbagoes.

But next Sunday we can thrash the matter out. It happens that for a long time I have not been able to assist at the function on Sunday. I shall be at home all day. Can't you come up early and have some dinner with us?

I will assume that you can unless you write me other wise.

W.W.F.

St. Paul. Minn

18 KENWOOD PARKWAY

Friday, August 13, 1910 -

Major R. D. Holcombe,

My dear Sir: -

The evening you spent with us, you requested me to write the book story. I regret to have put it off until the present; this week I sat down and wrote it off for you. I should have written it over again, or had it typewritten; but if I postponed any longer, I do not know when it would reach you.

I presume you will be on the Steamer Morning Star next Wednesday. Capt. Durant has invited us to go there.

Hoping you are well;

I remain yours respectfully - your friend and well-wisher, Jerome R. Lauprey

aug 31, 1915.

The Old Trail Chapter of the
D.A.R. cordially invite you to
attend the unveiling of ~~the~~
tablet to be dedicated to the
memory of the first officer
at Fort Snelling, Colonel Henry
Leavenworth, and his crew-
man, at Fort Snelling,
Saturday afternoon, September
eleven, at three o'clock.

St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 10, 1915

Mr. F. W. Murphy,
State Fair Headquarters,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Mr. Murphy,

You have no doubt seen the papers the last two days and their stories regarding the Log Cabin. Among the reasons given for the building not being open is that the writer has personal grievances against the management of the State Agricultural Society.

Now, Mr. Murphy, as chairman of the committee to whom this matter was referred last fall, you are in position to state that the Pioneers had a lease on that ground of 100 feet front, that they own the Log Cabin, have a kitchen full of utensils and dining-room furniture and new tent and that your association reserved the right to a charge if this space was used for a concession. You will remember that I went to the grand stand that evening and begged you to hold a meeting of your committee and make some kind of a report, as I was very anxious to open the Log Cabin. In June the Fair association had appropriated \$100 to clean and rearrange the pictures and curties in Institute Hall and Log Cabin, and while most of this had been used in having this work done, you were requested to take back \$50 of it, if necessary, to convince the management that I was not after their money. I told you I was only secretary of the Territorial Pioneers, that I could not legislate for them, that all I was doing was to insist that we had a lease to that ground, and that if you would only get your committee together and report either for or against us, acknowledging that I was asking for the rights of the Territorial Pioneers, I would be exonerated and it could be taken up later with our association. Mr. John Highberger, 940 Lombard, Sale 1452, a young landscape artist, was helping me and you were asked to call him up (no matter how late your meeting was) and told that he would be there to open the building by 5 o'clock the next morning. You were reminded that your Board was on the grounds and had authority not delegated to me as secretary of our association, that I had relied on the \$125 rent to run our exhibit, that I had had two applications for this stand, whom I had notified that the state fair charge for the ground would not be less than \$150, the amount the Relief Corps had paid the year previous. In addition to this they were charged \$80 in tickets for their helpers to get in to wash dishes and cook.

You are in position to state that when I appeared before your Board after the fair and called its attention to Mr. Crickmore's attitude and five letters ~~we~~ (two in his own handwriting) were shown to prove that he was mistaken, that I then made it plain that I was not appearing in self defense. When he left me remarking, "You just wait till I get before that Board," if this threat had influenced the Board to vote against our association, I wanted these letters to remove that prejudice.

Under date of October 2nd, your Secretary advised me that "at the meeting of our Board on Wednesday of this week, we again pre-

sented your statement of \$125 and the various communications received from you. After further discussion on the part of the Board, a motion was offered by Mr. Warner and unanimously adopted disallowing the claim for the reason that the ground in controversy belongs to the state of Minnesota for the State Agricultural Society."

It is hardly necessary for the purpose of this letter to analyze this paragraph, for what I am aiming to show and make clear to the minds of all is that I was discharging my duty as secretary and in no sense entering into personal controversy, if there was one. I was not advised of the fact of any, and the checking difficulty with Mr. Orlinmore came up after this.

Last year we received from all sources during State Fair week \$28.55. This was for 11 new members, \$13.25 in contributions, \$1.55 for badges and \$6.05 from the check room. During October a member that has often helped out gave me a \$25 check and called on two sons of a Pioneer who used to contribute while he was alive, and they gave him a check for \$50, which enabled me to pay some of the help I had had at the fair.

All of this was outlined to our people at the May 11th meeting. You will recall my letter to you of April 9th, this year, and yours of the 24th, mine in July and yours of August 4th asking me to hold on until I had a talk with you and Mr. Craig, and mine the first of September, in answer to which you replied that there was nothing to add to what you had stated. Your two first letters prevented my advising our people, and they came to the fair with no notice from me and jumped onto me for not opening the Cabin. This may be cheaper and result in showing the fair management that the Log Cabin is an important attraction for the fair association.

May I ask you as chairman of the committee to give Mr. Geo. A. Brackett and Gov. S. R. Van Sant, both at the Leamington, Minneapolis, John A. Stees, 155 Virginia, St. Paul, Eli Southworth, Shakopee, E. W. Durant, Stillwater, E. F. Serrisford, 396 Robert, St. Paul, and Wm. B. Reed, Hastings, notice when they can appear before your Board for an adjustment of the question wherein the Pioneers claim they have a lease dated prior to the time that this was state ground, and when the state took over the association there was no act that annulled contracts.

The Auditing Committee of the Territorial Pioneers from year to year have reported that the money paid in from this ground was accounted for, and you can testify to my having acted as secretary.

Tomorrow when they get through with their present show, I will take charge of the property as secretary, but I could not see my way clear to assume the financial responsibility of conducting the Log Cabin in a manner necessary to entertain the people this year without the recognition of the Fair Association.

Old Capitol
Both phones
199

Sincerely yours,

Coley. 

"To honor the past"

"To inspire the future"

HISTORY OF RENVILLE COUNTY MINNESOTA 1915

EDITORIAL BOARD

DARWIN S. HALL F. L. PUFFER, M. D.
R. T. DALY M. J. DOWLING
J. A. LANDY F. A. SCHAFER
JUDGE C. N. MATSON W. E. MORRIS
HENRY DUNSMORE H. W. LEINDECKER
AND OTHERS

H. C. COOPER JR. & CO., PUBLISHERS
(ESTABLISHED IN 1873)

EDITOR IN CHIEF
FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE

CHAIRMAN OLD SETTLERS' COMMITTEE
HON. DARWIN S. HALL

Sept. 15, 1915

Hon. Return I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Sir:--

During the years that I have been working on County histories I have found your writings of the greatest assistance--especially your masterly articles in "Minnesota in Three Centuries." It has not however been my pleasure to meet you. I trust however that at no very far distant date I may have that honor. Mr. D.S.Hall has mentioned you to be frequently, as had Dr. Warren Upham (in letters).

In the forthcoming History of Renville County I am using much of your material, giving of course due acknowledgment in the preface, and also making enough changes to avoid exact repetitions, as well as making the additions which localize the events in Renville county.

I realize how busy your life is, and how filled with work. I shall be much pleased however at any time to receive suggestions from you as to any line of my work especially as to the Minnesota valley.

With many good wishes, I remain, Sir.,

Very sincerely yours,

Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge

(Address, Winona, Minnesota)

P.S.--Are you by any chance one of the Connecticut Holcombes?

"To honor the past"

"To inspire the future"

HISTORY OF RENVILLE COUNTY MINNESOTA 1915

EDITORIAL BOARD

DARWIN S. HALL F. L. PUFFER, M. D.
R. T. DALY M. J. DOWLING
J. A. LANDY F. A. SCHAFER
JUDGE C. N. MATSON W. E. MORRIS
HENRY DUNSMORE H. W. LEINDECKER
AND OTHERS

H. C. COOPER JR. & CO., PUBLISHERS
(ESTABLISHED IN 1873)

Winona, Minn., Sept. 22, 1915

EDITOR IN CHIEF
FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE

CHAIRMAN OLD SETTLERS' COMMITTEE
HON. DARWIN S. HALL

Hon. Return I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Mr. Holcombe:--

It was more than kind of you to write me the very cordial letter which you did.

I am glad to know that you are one of the Connecticut Holcombes. I have not my geneological material at hand at this writing, but I am under the impression that my own family, through the Walcotts, untertwines with the Holcombe family.

Litchfield county, Connecticut, was my birth place. The names most conspicuous in our family tree are those of Bradford, Walcott, Williams, Johnson, Coe, Frost, Benham, Barber and Perkins. The Wedges at Albert Lea are related only in that they are descended from the same New England branches as myself. I would that they were closer relatives. Dr. A.C. Wedge and Judge Francis M. Crosby (of Hastings) were my preceptors in Minnesota history, and I have a most tender memory of both. Clarence A. Wedge I greatly admire. My associations with him have been most pleasant.

You may be sure that I am more than grateful for any succestions that you may make. In am using to a large extent your general story of the Massacre, and to this I have added several score of personal experiences of people in Renville county.

In writing the history of Redwood county, I shall be more than honored if you allow me to make use of some of the material that you have gathered and of which you speak. I had planned to go into greater detail in the Redwood than in the Renville history.

I was under the impression that Long crossed the river near

"To honor the past"

"To inspire the future"

HISTORY OF RENVILLE COUNTY MINNESOTA 1915

EDITORIAL BOARD

DARWIN S. HALL F. L. PUFFER, M. D.
R. T. DALY M. J. DOWLING
J. A. LANDY F. A. SCHAFER
JUDGE C. N. MATSON W. E. MORRIS
HENRY DUNSMORE H. W. LEINDECKER
AND OTHERS

H. C. COOPER JR. & CO., PUBLISHERS
(ESTABLISHED IN 1873)

EDITOR IN CHIEF
FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE

CHAIRMAN OLD SETTLERS' COMMITTEE
HON. DARWIN S. HALL

New Ulm, and followed the south shore, this not passing through Renville county. Therefore I have several pages about his trip for the Renville county book and had planned to use the "Journal" in the Redwood book.

I am ashamed to say that I did not know about Patterson's being in Renville county in 1783. Anything that you can send me on the subject will be greatly appreciated. After giving the explorers, and the ~~sax~~ traders and missionaries who settled near Renville county, I started with Le Croix who settled in Renville county in 1845.

Patterson's Rapids are between Middle Creek (Flora township) and Sacred Heart creek (Sacred Heart township). I am going to locate the exact section and range as you suggest.

Certainly no one could mention the Monuments in Redwood and Renville counties without mentioning your part in them. When I meet you I will have some inquiries to make concerning them.

I realize how busy you are. But if you can at an early date help me with the Patterson matter, I will be very thankful.

Very truly yours,

Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge

Shakopee Mine

Nov. 12-1915

R. E. Holcomb

372 - E. 10th St.

St. Paul, Minn

Dear Sir:

I am writing you for information. I have an ~~in~~ Indian Tomahawk. We have had it in family since 1843 at which time an old Indian (Chippawa) came to my grandfather who kept a trading store & traded it for Tobacco. a year ago an old Indian offered me \$50.00 for it but I would not take it. Now he is dead

+ I wanted to sell it +
want to know if you
can tell me of some
curio seeker who might
buy it. The old Indians
claim it to be about
250 years old it is of a
black stone. I also have
a pipe stone pipe made
like an Eagle claw holding
hole. I would not sell
these only I want to
keep my boys two eldest
ones 17 + 14 years in
school. If you can give
me an information that
would help me dispose
of these I would be very
grateful only do not
mention my name to be
come public.

2

I will enclose stamp
for reply. Hoping to
hear from you I am
Very Truly

Mrs. H. P. Leach.

By 2/3.. Shakofu
Meiss



Hotel Crookston

W.S. LYCAN,
PROP.

Crookston, Minn. 11/21 1915

My dear 'Moj':

I enclosed find a little matter on Coast Guard Hooks which may help some. I find from a talk with Judge Watts that Mr. Upton at one time gathered the data relative to the origin of all the names in the county such as Towns, Rivers, Lakes, Townships etc, which would be well to embrace

Let me hear from you so I will know



Hotel Crookston

W.S. LYCAN,
PROP.

²
Crookston, Minn. 191

so hot to depend on!
Weather here cold
but clear today
Trusting the funds
you have at work
I remain
Yours as ever
Bingham

1
Crookston Dec 18/15

W. H. Bingham Esq

Dear Sir: Yours of 17th recd and
I have gone somewhat hastily over it.
Though much of it does not ^{the}ertain
• particularly in Polk County it will
I think please most of those who sub-
scribe for the book as they have
not this information in any other
form. I think the second paragraph
is not in accordance with the
• views expressed in "The Aborigines
of Minnesota" 1906-1911 a report
issued by the State Historical Society
and party which I think you quote
in what is written. According to
that work the Sioux Indians were
• moundbuilders. They made mounds
where they buried their dead in
many places and were the only
Indians known of who did so in
Northwestern Minnesota. As pages 361 & 362, you
will find descriptions of mounds in
various

Polk County. The one first described
after the word Crookston gives location
and size correct except that it is in
the city of Crookston and only $\frac{3}{4}$ of a
mile from the centre of the city. It
is on the south bank of Red Lake River
35 feet above the stream. Prof. Moore
Supt. of the City Schools and his scholars
made ^{eight} excavations in it about
twenty five years ago and found
human bones including skulls
in it. This being such a large ^{mound}
makes it probable there was near
it at one time a Sioux Indian
village. The pages above named
describe quite a number of other
mounds and in Polk County and
I think it would be well to put that all
in your book. Those described as
being in E $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 90 T 151-44 is
in Red Lake County. The 90 is a mistake
of course it being Sec. 9. The presence
however

3
of these mound I take establishes
quite clearly that the Sioux Indians
occupied Polk County for quite
a long time before the Creeks did
• and were driven from it only
about 150 years ago or it may have
been 200 years. After being driven
from this part of Red River Valley they
(the Sioux) made several attempts
to recover it. until they were finally
• defeated in a great battle
by the Chippeways on the east side
of Upper Red Lake. I have never
seen a description of that battle
and if you can get it for your
• book it will be a very good thing
to have. I think I saw it stated
that an old Indian Chief of the
Cass Lake band of Indians who
was at Minnapioli's last fall

at Fairbairn was one of the
chiefs on the Chippewag side in
the engagement.

Hoping this finds you and
yours all well. I remain
Very Truly Yours
Wm. H. Hottel

P.S. I also send here with
my sketch. W. H.

Cca-1916]

POLK COUNTY
OFFICE OF
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

N. A. THORSON, SUPT.

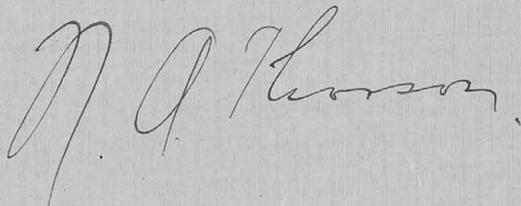
CROOKSTON, MINN.

Dear Bingham:

In the article on "Consolidated Schools", third paragraph, last three lines, kindly change to read as follows: "and not until more than one ~~legal~~ battle had been fought ^{some of} did ^{the} opposition subside".

This subject is a much larger one than this article shows and much that could have been added has been left out. In my crowded condition for time, there may have crept in some faulty diction, spelling or punctuation, which I am willing you should doctor up to suit your own taste. It may please you to learn that no more installments are in the making and the end referred to is now here.

Very sincerely



DISTRICT COURT CHAMBERS

WILLIAM WATTS, JUDGE
C. M. LOHN, REPORTER

Crookston, Minn.,

Jan 8/16

R. J. Holcombe Esq.

St. Paul Minn.

Dear Sir: Your very interesting letter of 6th is received. After reading it I am inclined to agree with you as to whether or not Sioux Indians occupied this part of the state. No thorough exploration of the mound in Crookston has ever been made. So far as I have learned the bones found in it were those of adults.

With regard to battle between the Sioux and Chippeways on the east side of Red Lake would say I scarcely think it can be the same with the one you describe as taking place on the Thief River. Battle River which flows into upper Red Lake from the east is said to get its name from being near or on the site of this battle. I have heard it spoken of much

But cannot get anything like a definite description of it. According to what I have heard it was fought about one hundred and twenty years ago and was the last great battle between the tribes in Northwestern Minnesota. I have heard Pierre Bottineau frequently told of what he had learned about it from participants. The story is it was very bloody and the Chippeways were victorious. I think Paul Boliveau of Mahanoma Co. would be able to give the traditional account of it. The father of Moose Dugg one of the signers of the "old crossing treaty" made by Gov. Ramsey in 1863. was one of the Chippeway chiefs who were engaged. There is much curiosity in this region about it and if anything authentic can be got of it you may be sure it will be read with interest.

Hoping this finds you well and thanking you for the letter. Very truly yours, Willie Datt. P.S. You are welcome to use my article in History of Red River Valley and no need to mention me in connection with it. W.D.

DISTRICT COURT CHAMBERS

WILLIAM WATTS, JUDGE
C. M. LOHN, REPORTER

Crookston, Minn.,

Jan 8/16

R. H. Bingham Esq.

Dear Sir: I enclose herewith matter
you sent with some interlined corrections.
I suppose it was intended to say proportionally
when it is written more corn than is grown
now, as many farmers in the county now
grow more corn each year than all
that was grown in the valley in those days.
As to the route of the old Pittson road
since known as "Pembina Trail" if
you will see George A. Ralph Engineer
Dutton Block Cor. Summit and Wabasha
St. Paul Minn. he will tell you the
line it followed exactly. There is a map
showing it in the public library here which
was made from information he gave
and if you do not get it from him I
can get an accurate description and
send you. If you are coming here soon
of course you can get it yourself. I think
your matter enclosed is very good and

will prove highly interesting to your
subscribers more particularly per-
haps who have not access to other ^{early}
histories of this section.

Very Truly Yours

Walter B. Smith

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SAINT PAUL

WARREN UPHAM
ARCHAEOLOGIST

Olivia, Minn., Friday noon,
July 14, 1916.
Mr. Return J. Holcombe, 40 Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minn.,

Dear Friend: This forenoon I have gathered notes of the origins and meanings of geographic names in McLeod county, interviewing Captain Axel H. Reed, who came there in 1856, Henry L. Simons, and Henry Wadsworth, these being our three M. H. S. life members in Glencoe, - also seeing the County Auditor. Most of the needed origins of towns and lake names I have thus ascertained; but a few are left over for letters to Mrs. Pendergast and others. You have probably met Captain Reed, who is author of a recent book on his family lineage, his Civil War Service, etc., which Mrs. Childs presented about a year ago for the M. H. S. Library.

Either Captain Reed, who was in mercantile business in Glencoe more than 30 years, or Mr. Wadsworth, who was a hardware merchant there 43 years, can write out interesting reminiscences of early times in McLeod county, which would doubtless be of much value for your present work on that county history. The former is 82 years old, the latter 84 years. Mr. Simons, banker, probably 50+ years old, is a native of Glencoe, has always lived there, and is much interested in local history. These three M. H. S. members can aid you much for verifying dates, names, etc., or to settle any points that you may need for full accuracy of your work.

Sincerely yours,
Warren Upham, Archaeologist.

DISTRICT COURT CHAMBERS

WILLIAM WATTS, JUDGE
C. M. LOHN, REPORTER

Crookston, Minn.,

Jan 17/16

R. L. Holcombe Esq

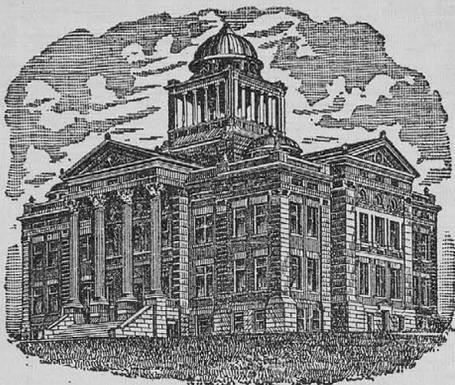
St. Paul Minn

Dear Sir: Yours of 14th is received and read with much interest. It will be interesting to have the substance of the reports of Capt Pope and Major Woods in the History. I have never heard anything of this halfbred trail your map shows. I do not think it could have been much travelled. If it had been the cart wheel tracks would have been still plain in the seventies. The "Pembina Trail" was then and still is very plainly marked by the cart travel. Mr. Ralph knows as well as any one living the old trails in the northwestern part of the state I think and I feel sure he will gladly tell you what he knows. The place where the "old crossing" Treaty with the Indians was made is just about twelve miles north east of Crookston at the place marked Hutton on the map. It used to be called Douglas

on the old maps and somewhere in the
old Capital Archives is a record of its
being platted sometime in the 1850's
but no one has ever found stakes
on the ground that I have heard of.
I do not know any work that gives the
particulars of settlement of the Belknap
or Pembina settlers at Grand Forks
nor can I give you anything on that
I have learned more of it from you
than I ever heard before. Hoping
this finds you improved in health I
remain

Very Truly Yours

Willie Pratt



POLK COUNTY
OFFICE OF
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
N. A. THORSON, SUPT.

CROOKSTON, MINN. January 33rd
1916.

Mr. W.H. Bingham
Minneapolis, Minn.
Dear Mr. Bingham:

A spelling contest yesterday ~~was~~ put me back several hours. However I have been able to get a considerable portion of my article. I am forwarding the part ready to send herewith. It appears that the balance of the article which I am shaping and giving the last writing can go forward tomorrow evening (Monday).

The rest of the article will cover a few selected statistics, excerpts from some of the Co. Supt.'s reports (brief) and a brief survey of the school service today.

Very sincerely yours

N. A. Thorson

Minneapolis I 7/24th, 16

My dear Maj:

The enclosed came this morning and I am forwarding the same to you so you can arrange it as you think best.

We are simply swamped with proof here and I am unable to get away for an hour, added to that is the fact that my old girl is sick and I have a new one on the job.

Trusting you are making good progress, I remain,

Yours in haste,

Bingham

W. H. BINGHAM & CO.
BOOK PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS
1123 PLYMOUTH BUILDING
MINNEAPOLIS

Jan, 27th, 1916

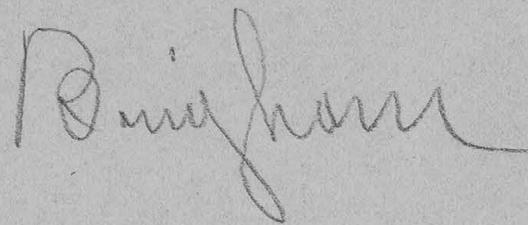
My dear Maj:

I am sending you another instalment of the school, history of Crookston , and I am in hopes that this may prove to be the end of it.

I think you will have to cut out a lot of it as we will have nothing but school history if we should print all he has sent in. Go over it carefully and see if you cant find a lot that could be left out just as well as not and not distroy it,s value from a historical stand point.

Trusting you may be making some progress with the general history , and by the way get that out of the way first as this matter can rest until you get that end of the work done as we will have to get somthing ready for the printers as they have about all the biogs we have ready for them now in type . Do not forget that .I remain,

Yours truly



W. H. BINGHAM & CO.
BOOK PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS
1123 PLYMOUTH BUILDING
MINNEAPOLIS

Jan, 31st. 1916

My dear Maj:

Inclosed you will find the Walker atticle which will probaly need some revising as I think he has written it in the third personand as we will credit it to him I think it would be well to revise it along those lines.

There is nothing more I can think of to say to you at this time , only try to get up in the morning so you will not meet yourself coming from work on your way up to the capital, I remain,

Yours in haste,

Bingham

ESTABLISHED 1873

H. C. COOPER, JR. & CO.
PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS

Winona, Minn., Feb. 1, 1916.

Mr. Return I. Holcombe,
Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Mr. Holcombe:-

They tell me in Renville county that Rev. L.P. Smith, Chaplain of the Soldiers Home at Minneapolis is one of the survivors of the settlers of Birch Cooley. Has his story ever been published?

I need not tell you what great joy I took in meeting you as I think that was evident to you. In about ten days I shall be with you and expect to spend some days of pleasant communion with you and Dr. Upham.

Very sincerely yours,

J. Curtis Cedge

ECW J

DISTRICT COURT CHAMBERS

WILLIAM WATTS, JUDGE
C. M. LOHN, REPORTER

Crookston, Minn.,

Feb 11th 1916

R. J. Holcombe Esq
St Paul, Minn
Dear Sir: Yours of Feb 6th was
received. I have delayed making an-
swer thinking I might learn more
that might be useful but I have not
got anything. There was an old trail
that crossed Red Lake River about a
mile west of Fisher but in the seventies
when settlers first came this way they
say it did not present evidence of ever
having been much travelled and in
that respect was in very marked contrast
to what was known as the Pembina Trail
which crossed Red Lake River near Foot.
There is one man whose name I escape
me just now but who still lives near
here who was one of the Company of Cavalry
which came with Gov. Ramsey when
the Indian Treaty was made and he
was present June 8th 1914. I think that

was the date) when the place where Treaty
was signed near ^{had you meant placed} Hudson's route
out the place where it should be located
I am sure you need not doubt that
was the place of signing. I never have
learned anything about how the Hudson
Bay Co. got the privilege of reestablishing
their post south of international ^{line}
boundary in 50s & 60s. I have not
any knowledge of what became of the
white men who were located at the
Grand Forks in 1860. Cavalier is the
only one who remained in this
region until 1880 that I have heard
about. I am sorry you are not going
to have all the time you wish to get the
early history of this region in full for
it would be very interesting to have
have it. We will thank you for getting
all you can of it. I have been busy with the
jury holding court for the last four weeks
and will have another week of it. But after
that will have more leisure. Hoping this finds
you well I remain very truly your friend
Wm. H. Miller

Minneapolis 7/8 116

Holcombe:

Hugh Thompson's wife
was Luella May Thompson
born in St Paul. She died at
Fisher in 1888 and was first
school teacher in Polk co
Bingham



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mag R. J. Halcombe
of State Historical Society
St Paul
Minn

ESTABLISHED 1873

H. C. COOPER, JR. & CO.
PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS

Winona, Minn., Feb. 19, 1916.

Major Return I. Holcomb
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Major Holcomb:-

I have been so busy that I have not yet been able to get up to see you. I am going to before I get the book out. I want to have some long talks with you both personal and historical. I want to meet the good Dr. Upham. I also want to read through some of the books that you have there.

I suppose that by this time your work for Bingham is nearly done. I am in hopes that you and Mr. Cooper will be able to get together on the McLeod county proposition.

Now I am going to ask you to do some work for me.

I am sending you some material which was prepared for me in Morton. It is not at all satisfactory to me. I wish that you would take it and fix it up. I understand that you were secretary of this commission and you will be able to write a good story.

Have you anywhere a list of those killed and wounded at Birch Cooley or of the participants in that battle? I suppose they are on the monument but it is almost impossible to decipher the names and besides that the weather was too cold for a trip there when I was in Morton.

I understand that you and Mrs. Schmidt are fixing up her

500) 1000.00
200
550) 1000.00 (14
550
4500
44000

ESTABLISHED 1873

H. C. COOPER, JR. & CO.
PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS

RIH #2

reminiscences as an addition to what she had already sent us. We will be pleased when you can get this in to us.

In your scholarly booklet, *The Monuments of the Minnesota Valley Historical Society*, published about the time the markers were erected, you mention the fact that it was then the intention to erect a later monument marking the corral. Was this done?

This is merely by way of business. As I told you before I trust that you and I are going to establish a very cordial personal relationship. At present I am so rushed that I think of little else besides history. You know what it is when these publishers want to go to press. With many good wishes, I remain,

Yours truly,

Hurtes & Sedge

FCW J

H. C. COOPER, JR. & CO.
PRINTERS AND ENGRAVERS

42607

The old crossing of Red Lake River, near Fisher, in 1858.
From sketch by Manton Marble in Harper's Magazine for January, 1861

DISTRICT COURT CHAMBERS

WILLIAM WATTS, JUDGE
C. M. LOHN, REPORTER

Crookston, Minn.,

Feb'y 28/16

R. J. Holcombe Esq
Dear Sir: Here is an account
by Benjamin Dalbee of the old Crossing
Crest. The Louisville he speaks of is
the Township where the Crossing is
Hut is a Post-Office with only one
other building. Hoping this finds
you improved in health I remain
Very truly yours
William Watts

East Grand Forks Minn Mar. 1st 1916

W. H. Bingham & Co

Minneapolis Minn

Am returning herewith biographical sketch corrected as per request. I have been requested by a number of Polk Co. People including Judge Wats who urged me to send you this clipping from the Grand Forks Herald of last Sunday Feb 27-1916. Containing a survey and sketch of the Marais Community now I think it is quite accurate and should it assist you in your work well if not just put it in the waste basket

Very truly, Yours.

James Cumming

P.S The survey was written by my second eldest son who is a junior in the N. Dak. University J.C.

Second Section--Pages 9 to 16

VOL. XXXV. NO. 102.

Interesting Survey of Marais Community Made By University Student

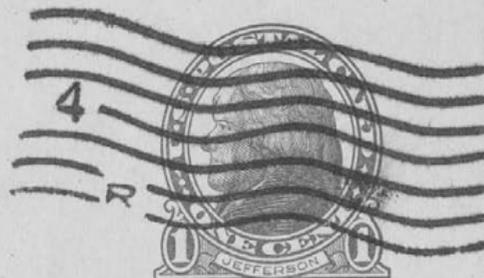
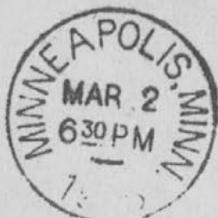
Plu The following article, prepared by Allan Cumming, a student at the University of North Dakota, was read at a recent meeting of the Civics club of that institution. It presents in concise form a history of a typical Red River valley community. It is interesting, in glancing over the record, to note the manner in which the little community has progressed from its frontier stages to its present condition, with its social life, its educational progress, and its religious interests, with the comforts and conveniences suitable to modern life. It is worth while, also, to note the increase in land values, in value of buildings, and in value of live stock in ten years. A glance at the table giving the acreage devoted to various crops shows a marked change in agricultural methods, and this affords perhaps the best explanation possible of the very gratifying prosperity of the community.

Note.—The data used in preparing this paper was secured by canvassing this special community for first hand evidence. The statistics obtained are not absolutely correct, but true to within such a reasonable margin that in each case the proper inference may be drawn. The writer is indebted to the secretaries of the various organizations in the community and to the county superintendent of schools and county clerk of Polk county for much information.

great increase in valuation has taken place. Ten years ago the total valuation was estimated at \$550,000, the building valuation at \$150,000, and the live stock valuation at \$90,000. These figures place the average value of an acre of land at approximately \$26 per acre; the average value of buildings on each farm at \$2,700; and the average value of live stock at \$1,800. Today the total land valuation is estimated at \$1,860; the building valuation at \$230,000, and the live stock valuation at \$140,000. These figures place the average value of an acre of land at \$85 per acre; the average value of buildings on each farm at \$4,600, and the average value of live stock on each farm at \$2,800.

Valuation Table.

Land—1905, \$550,000; 1915, \$1,860,000; per cent increase, 238.
Buildings—1905, \$150,000; 1915, \$230,000; per cent increase, 53.
Live Stock—1905, \$90,000; 1915, \$140,000; per cent increase, 55.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Major P. S. Holcomb,
St. Paul,

Minn.

c/o "State Historical Society."

Minneapolis Minn. ^{3/21/16}

~~My dear Major~~

What became of the little sketch
written by Father Theillan of
Gentilly, on the Church &
Cheese factory? He fail to find
it among the proof.

Yours truly,

H. N. Bushamper

M. P. Satterlee.

Office: 221 First Street North.
Residence: 4849 Emerson Ave. S.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Thursday March 2, 1916.

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

Dear Major: I have thought over our conversations at St. Paul considerably, since our meeting. I have since made an estimate subject to correction later, on the number of people killed in the massacre. The numbers are 420 citizens, and 77 soldiers. This includes all who died from wounds, and counts two missing children, three unidentified at Breckinridge, Gilligan and three Germans who left the Riggs party near New Ulm, also those killed in 1863-1864-1865 by raiders. As the Dustins, Jewetts, McGannon, Basche, etc. Have you made any estimate, and if so how does this compare?

If you can spare the time will you kindly copy about a dozen names on that list of prisoners taken to St. Paul, so as to give me an idea of what information is in the list as printed.

I am enclosing a picture of the Marsh Monument at the Ferry which shows the "24" that should have been "23". But compared to the number of Indians which were literally slaughtered at New Ulm, Fort Ridgely and Abercrombie, I think you have come pretty close to facts.

In the picture of the Riggs party, you will notice the face of Riggs in the group at the left front of the wagon, his head hides the standing woman's dress (probably Mrs. Andrew Hunter). The girl with the striped shawl is a sister of Thos. A. Robertson

I remembered what you said about Columbus the head warrior of the Kaposia band. His grandson Willie is in this picture which I took at the Birch Coulie Mission last summer.

Respectfully yours.

M. P. Satterlee

W. H. BINGHAM & CO.
BOOK PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS
1123 PLYMOUTH BUILDING
MINNEAPOLIS

March, 3d.

1916

My dear Maj:

Inclosed you will find a letter and the clipping from Mr James Cumming of East Grand Forks .

I have run through it hurridly and fail to find much of historic value in ~~it~~ excepting the opening few lines. It seems to me like a boom write up of that section. However if you think it has any real merit we will run a part of it .

Kindly let me hear from you regarding **it** as soon as possible, I remain,

Yours in haste,





THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Major R. A. Halcomb
% State Historical Society
St Paul
Minn.

Minneapolis Minn. March 4-16

My dear 'Moj':

Go ahead and have the cut
made for 2⁰⁰ but it must be
ready very soon. You have all there
is in the Hum Co. Nothing else written

Good accounts are like old wheat
Why such a rush about a ct. The world
was not made in a day. (Yan motto)

Yours in haste
J. N. B.

with reference to the P.A. Cumming
Survey of Marais Communitie
in Dallas Co. given at N.V. Date

East G Forks Minn May 7 1916
Mr. R. J. Halcombe.

St Paul Minn

Dear Sir: Your favour to hand today
and in regard to the information you
seek. I shall try and give, as I have
been able to get it.

The two scotch men referred to were
settled here 1871.
Mr William Fleming, Glasgo Scotland
Mr Robert Coulter born in Ont. his Father 1871,
Came from Glasgo Scotland. There
was a third party with the other two
1871.
Mr J. L. McCreety, who was born in Ont.
his parents coming from the old Country
to Canada. there were other settlers coming
in 1871. Mr David Nisbet. Now I think
I better give you these dates on another
sheet. The first settlers were under the necessity
of hauling their supplies from Alexandria
Minn. The Presbyterian Church organized in 1885
with following officers and members enclosed
list. Now you can use as much of this
as you think relevant with kind regards
James Cumming

J. R. FOOTE, PRESIDENT

A. A. MILLER, VICE PRESIDENT

CHAS. L. CONGER, CASHIER

NO 721

Citizens State Bank of Mc Intosh

CAPITAL \$10 000 00 SURPLUS \$5 000 00

McINTOSH, MINN March 8th 1916

R. S. Holcombe, Esq.

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: Replying to yours of March 4th relative to History of Polk County, and that portion relative to "Columbia County", I would say that I regret very much that I do not have the time to go back over the old Newspaper files for the data that you ask, but from memory would say that the idea was first conceived about 1892 and at every general election after that till 1902 there was an attempt to divide the County. In 1896 when Red Lake County was formed out of Polk, Columbia County was also voted off, but owing to conflicting with Red Lake County in territory, a Supreme Court Decision was handed down to the effect that Red Lake County was set off and Columbia was not. The Village of Fosston with another proposition called Nelson County tried their luck several times, but always met with defeat, as did the Villages of Erskine, with Star County, Fertile with Garfield County and East Grand Forks with Hill County.

However in ~~1892~~ 1902 Columbia County, with McIntosh as County seat and ~~Fosston~~ Nelson County with Fosston as County seat, and Star County with Erskine as the County seat were all voted upon and

Citizens State Bank of McIntosh

CAPITAL \$10 000.00 SURPLUS \$5 000.00

MCINTOSH, MINN.

Columbia County won out, the Gov. issued his proclamation and we started doing business, doing every thing that a County could do till we were stoped by the Supreme Court.

A petition of twenty five per cent of the leagl voters of the whole Polk County were necessary to bring this matter to a vote and the petition, a copy of which can be found in the office of the Secretary of State in St. Paul should answer as to who wanted.

A glance at the map of Polk County since Red Lake County was taken off in 1896 should be sufficient answer to the question of why?

There has always been more or less sentiment for a county in the entire eastern portion of the County, but the trouble has always been that all of the villages in the east end wanted to be County seats. I think that if you will examine the files of the Crookston Times, McIntosh Times, Fosston "Thirteen Towns and Erskine Echo, that you can get information you require as to who was doing the work.

The matter was dragging on here for about ten years and several of those who were largely instrumental in starting the matter were not in at the finish.

However the prominent men concerned in McIntosh for Columbia County were. John P. Johnson (the best booster of them all) C.T. Lanman S.H. Drew, Dr. McEacheran, O.E. Stovern, Anton Jensen, W.G. Hunt, Chas. L. Conger. C.F. Page. These parties started it. In 1902

Citizens State Bank of Mc Intosh

CAPITAL \$10 000 00 SURPLUS \$5 000 00

MC INTOSH, MINN.

those who were prominently identified, were John P. Johnson, C.T. Lanman, Thos. Lawrence, Chas. L. Conger, S.H. Drew, Wells S. Short Paul W. Carpenter, E.A. Webster, Anton Jensen, W.G. Hunt, Andrew Trov- aaten, T, N, J, Reese, John L. Hagen, ~~xxx~~ Thomas R. Brownlee and Leslie Shadduck.

The decision of the Supreme Court ousting the officers is given in the Minnesota reports #89, page 123, in the case of State vs. Larson. This will give you data and the reason why.

The newspapers that I have mentioned I suppose all have files in the Historical Society and will be easy of access to you.

I would have to go to Crookston and Fosston and I have not the time. The records of the Governors office, the Secretary of State office and the news paper files should give you all the required data.

Regarding the appointment of the board of County Commissioners, by the Governor, I would say that a petition to divide a county must state the boundaries, the name and location of the County seat and the names of the first board of County commissioners.

This you can verify by reading one of the numerous petitions on file in the office of the Sec. of State.

The territory in Columbia was all from twenty to forty or fifty miles distant from the County seat of Polk County and it was for the convenience of residents of Columbia that they wished to separate.

J. B. FOOTE, PRESIDENT

A. A. MILLER, VICE PRESIDENT

CHAS. L. CONGER, CASHIER

NO 721

Citizens State Bank of Mc Intosh

CAPITAL \$10 000 00 SURPLUS \$ 5 000 00

Mc INTOSH, MINN

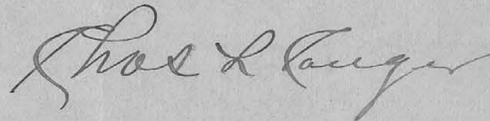
The seperation could be made at any general election yet, were it possible for the villages of Fosston, McIntosh and Erskine to agree upon a County seat, but as each village will vote against any proposition that will locate the County seat in the other village all hopes of dividing the County have been given up.

If you can make anything out of this information together what you can get from the sources named you will have to write it up yourself, as I do not think that any article of mine would look well in print. I am not particular about being credited with it.

The portion included in the Columbia County was all that ~~portion~~ portion lying ~~west~~ east of range forty four, comprising eighteen townships of the best land in Minnesota.

If there is any further data that I can give will be pleased to do so.

Yours truly.



March

Fifteen,

1916.

Major Return I. Holcombe,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Major:--

I have now reached the point where I need the monument material, and also the Schwandt-Schmidt material.

I wish you would also write me a paragraph or two about the connection of Mr. Gilfillan and yourself with the erecting of the various markets of the Minnesota Valley Historical Society.

Before long I am going to see you. At present busy duties seem to almost overwhelm me, and the labor ahead of me seems to increase instead of diminish.

With many good wishes, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge

When I see you I will talk to you about the price for historical writing. I never did believe in working too cheap. And after one has put a just price on one's work it is easier to make concessions on the price than it is to get it increased after one has made the price to low.

CONFIDENTIAL

M. P. Satterlee.

Office: 221 First Street North.
Residence: 4849 Emerson Ave. S.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Thursday, April 13, 1916.

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

Dear Major: I was very glad to see you present the other night, tho I must own that I was thinking much of the time. I wonder if Major H. has learned better about some of my conclusions, and is giving me a quiet laugh. But I am never afraid to own up to my mistakes and if I have erred please tell me so.

Can you tell me if there was a John Wensinger of St. Cloud, a teamster killed at Ft. Abercrombie (or near) Sept. 29, 1862? He was reported in through the military, but I can find nothing else of him. I never heard of him from St. Cloud parties. Here is what I am short in names:

_____ Brusson or Brousseau killed at Lower Agency

Fritz _____ cook for Myrick

Tille or Thiele with the Paul Kittsman party

_____ Wagner, same, and an epileptic, brother of Mrs. Kittsman

_____ Laundre, _____ Peshette, _____ Patnode, _____ Ryder killed at Big Stone Lake

_____ Belzer, _____ and wife Pelzl, _____ ~~Thilling~~ Thilling and wife killed at Milford, Brown Co.

_____ Heydrick at Leavenworth, Brown Co.

_____ Gilligan and three Germans left Riggs party and were killed northwest of New Ulm.

_____ Spaude or Sponde, wife and two children killed at Hutchinson.

_____ Patterson, _____ Peterson and two children, Watonwan Co.

_____ Scott or Ryan, killed near Old Crossing, and three men at Breckenridge in hotel. *Edw Russell, Chas. Battle of Big Valley and Martin Jehrenbock*

_____ Van Eaton, killed at Grove Lake near Sauk Center.

With these I should be pretty near ready to close up and rest from my labors on the list of killed in the massacre.

I am hoping to hear from Louis Kitzman any day and make a date to visit the massacre ground where he was captured and the families massacred. And at that time I also hope to go on to Wood Lake and the Upper Agency grounds.

Well if you can help out with any of these I shall be more than thankful for the assistance.

Respectfully yours,

M. P. Satterlee

B. F. BOWEN & CO.
PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS
MERIDIAN LIFE BUILDING
INDIANAPOLIS

PHONE, MAIN 5665

April 28, 1916

Dear Mr. Holcombe: I have just received your MS on the early history of Otter Tail county, but too late for use in the history. I waited two weeks for it and not hearing from you about it had supposed that you had decided not to go ahead and prepare such an article. This would necessarily come in the forepart of the book and we already have about seven hundred pages printed, so it would not be possible to tear up the forms and insert it at this stage of the game. Furthermore, all we wanted was something bearing on Otter Tail county, but you have, as you must admit, wandered from your subject and got into the realms of history outside of the county. Albeit you have collated a goodly collection of observations by explorers in the northern part of the state, but most of your material throws little light on Otter Tail county. I have written Mr. Mason to the effect that he turn over the MS to one of the Fergus Falls newspapers and let them use it, so that the people of the county may have the benefit of your investigation. Mr. Mason says that the authenticity of the Rune stone of which you speak at length is questioned by scholars. I have the full report on the stone and had thought of saying something about it, but did not because I could not see that it had any bearing on Otter Tail county.

Regarding your compensation: I agreed to pay you an additional ten dollars for a concise article bearing on the early history of Otter Tail county, the same to be two thousand words in length. I have your letter before me here to the effect that you would write an article of this length for such a consid-

B. F. BOWEN & CO.
PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS
MERIDIAN LIFE BUILDING
INDIANAPOLIS

PHONE, MAIN 5665

Mr. H. 2.-

eration. But I understood that I was to have it within a week. However, if the article had been what I thought it might have been I would not have hesitated to have had you made it longer. As it is we cannot use the article at all; in any case I could not have used near all of it for the reason that only a little of it has a direct connection with Otter Tail county. Mr. Mason could also tell you of his opinion of the MS as a contribution to Otter Tail county. In other words I feel that your price of twenty dollars for the work which you have done is asking much too much. What I wanted was something bearing on Otter Tail county and a careful reading of your copy shows that little of it comes under this category.

I do not want you to think that I am trying to evade the paying of a proper compensation for your work, but you see that what I asked for and what you have furnished are two different things. I contracted for one thing at a certain time and for a stipulated price and I received neither the thing for which I contracted nor at the time set forth. But I am willing to pay you ten dollars for your trouble. We were unfortunately not in close touch with each other and had we been this misunderstanding would have been avoided.

With best wishes for your success in your work, I remain

Very truly yours,

Ernest W. Shockey

EVS/LMA

St. Paul, Minn., May 5, 1916

Major R. I. Holcomb,
New Capitol Bldg.,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Holcomb,

Next Thursday, May 11th, the Minnesota Territorial Pioneer Association holds its annual business meeting and reunion all day in the old capitol, with dinner at 12:30 and morning and afternoon programs.

We are expecting an unusual meeting, as we are now closing one of the biggest years in the history of the association, both financially and in gifts of valuable pictures.

Our people always enjoy having you present and as this will undoubtedly be the last meeting for a great many of them, we trust that you will plan to spend part of the day here.

Sincerely yours,

George H. Hazard

Old Capitol
Both phones
199

PHONE, MAIN 5665

FEDERAL PUBLISHING CO.
EDITION PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS
MERIDIAN LIFE BUILDING
INDIANAPOLIS
May 15, 1916

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

Dear Mr. Holcombe : Enclosed find check for ten dollars (\$10.00) as per agreement. I have been out of the city, which accounts for the delay in getting your check to you. You will have the satisfaction of spending it, notwithstanding its tardiness in arriving.

I trust you are getting along well with your work and when I came up to Minnesota this summer I will certainly drop in to see you. Our Otter Tail county history is all printed and goes to the binder this week. I trust it may contain some good points, although there are always some things in every county history, which can be improved upon. The book prints about seven hundred pages, that is, exclusive of the biographical section. There are two volumes-- one all history and the other biography.

Again thanking you for all you have done for me and assuring you of my kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

Ernest G. Hooley

OFFICE OF
WHELOCK'S WEEKLY
WHELOCK & MANTOR

FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA, May 22, 1916

R. I. Holecombe,
State Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:--

Whatever typographical errors were made in the first two installments of your article were our fault, for your copy was irreproachable. It was all read by copy, and I am compelled to damn the copy holder again, as I always try to get such matter right, and tried this time.

As to the commercial nature of the publishers of these county histories--of course. They would never be issued at all if somebody did not see a profit in them. As I understand it, your matter was omitted only because their limits were overtaxed already, not because they did not wish and intend to use it. It should have gone in. Personally I was very proud and glad to get it for first publication in the newspaper, so it's an ill wind that blows nobody good. The 1860 census Shoekley told me he intended to use verbatim. I should think he would.

If we called you a "student," you can take it as a compliment, in the correct meaning of the word. There's nobody higher or better than that. Give my regards to my old friend John Talman, if he is in the newspaper room.

Very sincerely yours,

H. M. Wheelock

M. P. Satterlee.

Office: 221 First Street North.

Residence: 4849 Emerson Ave. S.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Saturday, May 27, 1916.

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

Dear Major: I am trying to make up a party to visit the massacre district including yourself, Geo. H. Hazzard, David Gorham Pres. Native Sons, A. L. Maxim a photographer, and myself, and expecting to be joined at Morton, by William Wichman, Frank M. Shoemaker and Louis Kitzman. We hope to definitely locate the scenes of the massacres at the Edward Magner home---of the J. J. Meyers party, about three miles above the mouth of Beaver Creek--also of the party headed by Paul Kitzman (father of the above named Louis) near Sacred Heart Creek. Want to leave Friday night June 9th and spend three days--we will have to hire automobiles most of the time, and I suppose figure about \$2 per day for hotel, so I suppose the trip will run from \$15 to \$20 including railway fare. If you can go with us please let me know at once. And we will figure out details. If you cannot go and there is any point you might think of that needs investigation please write me about it.

With best regards, I am, yours,

M. P. Satterlee

June, 16, 1916.

Dear uncle bob.

Must Drop you

a line just to let you know.

that I like to keep my promise

I like the place very much

but it dont seem's the same

like at Fadden's where I could

see you ever morning

Dear ^{uncle Bob,} you are the only one friend
I had at St. Paul I do think much of you
as I know that you mean right good by

I Remember you very
 Miss Minnie felt her glad to
 James Thomson, N.S.,
 #1011

M. P. Satterlee.

Office: 221 First Street North.
Residence: 4849 Emerson Ave. S.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Monday, June 5th, 1916.

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

Dear Major: As I have not heard from you I am supposing that the trip I mentioned is too tough for your pleasure. Geo. H. Hazzard also could not go at that time. I think that I shall have to change dates also. The Old Settlers of Renville (Pioneers) have their meeting the 14 and 15th, next week and I am planning to be there, and possibly before that will make the trip I mentioned to New Ulm and Ridgely, would be glad to see you there. If you think of going write and I will tell you just what day we are going to locate the Kitzman slaughter field. This is the important event of the trip, and would like very much to have you along.

You made the statement that a boy was killed at the same time as Thomas Smith at the Magner home. A grandda ughter of Thomas is my neighbor, and before getting into a wordy wrestle with you I cansulted her. She says the boy is very much alive yet and is out in Alaska after many years of Indian hunting: She farther says that Thomas, his wife, sons William and Thomas were moveng up the river and had camped near the Faribault hill, that in the early morning Thomas and William started to ^{get} fixd their cattle which had been left at three mile creek (3 miles above the fort), when they got to Magners or near there they met Magners boy looking for Magner's stock. Magner had been warned by the first lot of refugees from the fort, and had sent the rest of the family to the fort while he and the boy got the stock. The boys loitered along and Thomas appreaching the house mistaking Indians for white men was killed by them. They had just previously killed Magner. The boys saw three naked Indians in war-paint coming up a ravine, and knowing what it meant took to the brush and got to the fort. Mrs. Smith and the son Tomas (perhaps other children, I did not ask) were warned by ~~ex~~ other refugees and skulked through the brush to the fort. William says he

FISHER PAPER BOX CO.



MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.,

--2--

thinks the Indians followed him for three miles, that he passed a Swedish family, and told them the Indians were coming, but he had no time to explain and they did not seem to understand him. This must have been the Ole Samson family. Ole was killed about this locality and the Indians attempted to burn Mrs. S. and the two children, and while their attention was diverted she leaped from the wagon and escaped to the fort with one ~~child~~ child--the other was burned. I think you will find this the truth of the Thomas Smith murder.

Hoping that I may see you at Morton or hear from you before I go., will close.

Yours truly,

M. P. Satterlee

These people locate the Magner house at a point where the road from Franklin to the river crosses the old Beaver Creek road to the fort, often called the "Old Government Road." Magner was building a new log house--the new one was below this road, the old one in which they were living was above or west of the road.

M. P. Satterlee.

Office: 221 First Street North.
Residence: 4849 Emerson Ave. S.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Wednesday June 7, 1916.

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

Dear Major: Ypurs at hand, and as discrepancies appear will interview Mrs. Smith-Postlethwait again regarding the Thomas Smith affair. So of this more anon, or about that time.

SPAUDE--I have seen this name spelled "Spondy"--I went to interview Emanuel Reyff who settled at Forest City then at Middle Creek, then after the civil war at Atwater. This old man was sick in bed but when he ~~xxx~~ learned who it was and that I wanted to talk of the Massacre he was bound to see me. He is a brother to Eusebius whose family were murdered at Middle Creek. He seemed to know most of the people about Middle Creek, but he gave the name of "John" for so many that I thought his mind wandering and did not accept his authority. But he was right in nearly every case. Now, he told me that he knew "Sponde" as he pronounced it, and said his name was August. I am half inclined to believe he is right; but he was so far gone and he told some things which I knew were not so, that I did not credit it. As I have the story, Spaude was killed at the Crow river a little above town just as he crossed the river, and that the wife and children ran into the brush while the Indians were catching the team (this was common), and that their bodies were found near the Asa Hutchinson farm some distance from the town. (I think this likely as the Indians were about the stockade, on that Sept. 4th all day long. And she would certainly not get up within sight of the stockade during the fighting). Reyff died before I had a chance to see him again.

SANBORN--I have a Caleb Sanborn killed near Cedar Lake, and am wondering if this is whom who mean by "Hiran". Prof. Pendergast wrote "Early Sketches of Hutchinson" and read his paper before the Hist. Socy, but I don't think he named Sanborn and he says "David" Cross. He also quotes the Spaude

matter minus given names. Don't put too much dependance on Smith of Forest City, he was considerable of a would be.

WHITE--Am much obliged to you for the given names, and number in family who were killed. Had never gotten further than "four persons".

I suppose you will give just and proper credit to the Asa B. Hutchinson Family. I have some very excellent photos if you need them. Mrs. H. died at Rushford, Minn., while she and Asa were travelling and singing for my father in the temperance work. Upon her death father organized the Elizabeth C. Hutchinson Memorial Fund for Temperance work and raised some \$30,000 in notes. Possibly better not mention that the great majority were never paid, and yours truly was stung for \$350.00. Of course they were in McLeod County but you may find them entangled in ~~many~~ many outside matters as they travelled much and lived at home but little.

~~Some~~ I think you will find my story of the killing of Little Crow the most complete and correct version of the affair.

Sorry you could not go with us. The party has narrowed down to three and another is likely to drop out. I wish I might feel satisfied with this trip, but the more you hear the more faults you see in what you have recorded. And so I promise not. I would like to take a month and walk over every foot of the ground, to Yellow Medicine.

Respectfully yours,

M. P. Satterlee

The University of Minnesota
Minneapolis

August 3, 1916.

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

My dear Major:

I am proud of you as fellow American, who holds on to his boyhood enthusiasms. Wasn't the "caravan" a big thing in our youth, and when they joined the caravan and the circus how the prejudices of the godly people disappeared. On our way home, on the trolley, we saw hundreds of people lining up on the sidewalks to enjoy the great spectacle.

I have read your Dispatch article of January 20, 1894 with care; so far as the facts are concerned I need not go a step further, but I am making it a rule to cite original documents when they can be found. It is not very long since I saw the Ramsey-Sibley letters, etc., anent the seal. My recollection is that they were in one of the two paper boxes, but I could not find them yesterday and so lost my whole morning. You can probably tell me just where to look and make me thankful to you. I want to ask you a number of questions about the seal and other matters. Couldn't you come up to my house next Sunday, in a morning hour, take a bite with us at noon and stay as long afterwards as your engagements will allow. Our house number is 1020 Fifth Street S.E. The Como-Harriet cars pass by Eleventh Avenue. Among the questions I am minded to molest you with are these: 1. Where did you get the description of Ramsey's temporary seal? (Sunburst, etc.) 2. What design did Ramsey probably offer in place of the temporary one? Was it the Boal design? 3. Who made the wood cuts for your Dispatch article? All of these and a lot more I will propound,

Ober

if you will let the light of your countenance shine upon us
next Sunday.

Very faithfully,

A. M. W. Folwell.

Minneapolis, Minn. Aug. 3, 1915:

Dear Major Holcombe:

Thank you for setting me "wise" on Rice. I had not discovered that he went to the Ewings, which fact is not creditable to me. This accounts for the intimacy of Rice and the Chutes. I suppose the Ewings got a divvy after Rice secured the signatures of the upper chiefs to the amendments. I think I have told you how Rice got half of his \$10,000. I have somewhere a copy of ~~xxxxxxx~~Rice's letter to Dousman and the reply. They are richness.

My expression "on the sly" was unhappy. What I had in mind was that the Catlin plan (so called for my convenience,) was not known to the members of the Stillwater convention generally, if to any of them, and that there after it was worked out by the leading men interested, not secretly, but with only so much publicity as was possible in a time without railroads, telegraphs and regular mails. Of course before the election the scheme was generally understood. "Have you ever seen any report of the voting? Sibley was evidently watching out for the French vote, so that Rice did not win over him in Crow Wing.

By the way was there any kind of election of delegates to the Stillwater convention? J.R.B. hailed from Crow Wing. I have seen a letter of his dated from Crow Wing, but do not remember the date.

If you will open to M.H.C. 1:53 you will see that the Catlin letter is recorded to have been read at the meeting of August 5. (N.B. the call for the convention I see was dated Aug. 4.) Catlin makes no reference to any letter addressed to him by Wm. Holcombe or anybody else, invoking his

action. Did J.R.B. directly or through Martin stir up Catlin? Catlin must have been started early in the season, to be able to obtain Buchanan's opinion. Query, did he get it through Governor Dodge? I hardly think he could have interested the secretary himself. I should like to know the date of the Buchanan opinion.

This letter does not call for a reply, but I enclose envelope for yr use if you are moved to suggest anything. We ought to have a confab, or rather I need to have one with you. As I am still on the limits and not allowed to go so far from home as the library, id'nt it up to you to come over and spend a Sunday with your aged pal? When you can, better send me a postal before as I might be taken off to church, which I have neglected for many months.

W.W.F. *Swell*

P.S. I find from a Catalog of Newspapers in the Wis. Hist. Soc. Lib. that the following are on the files:
4
Prarie du Chien Patriot (w) Sept. 18~~46~~⁵⁶ to Aug. 1851, when suspended,
Wisconsin Democrat, 1846 to Jan. '51,
Wisconsin Express, 1848-50.

Minneapolis, Minn. August 16, 1916:

Dear Major Holcombe=

Our orbits do not intersect at the Historical rooms.
Will you not come up next Sunday and take a snack with us at one o'clock
pee-em?° But come up early in the cool if the day and we will snack when
the time comes round.

I need sttering around some corners..

V.t.y.

william w fo~~h~~wel~~l~~

1020 Tth st se

Sept Aug. 18, 1916

729 Fulton St., S.E.,
Minneapolis.

Dear Major Holcombe,

I suppose you were annoyed again at me for leaving the library before you returned, but it was really necessary for me to go back to Minneapolis before 5 o'clock. I wish very much to have you look over a little of my work before I go away, especially the chapter on Minnesota in the Civil War, although I do not

like to take your time from your work during the hours the historical library are open. Can't you appoint some evening when you will not be busy, and allow my sister and me to come to your home in St. Paul? It would not make any difference to us that it takes a considerable amount of time to go between the cities so I think it would be better for us to come to St. Paul than for you to come to Minneapolis.

Anyway, I haven't forgotten that you insinuated I couldn't cook, so I'm not going to ask you to come over for supper. But we are building a new house in St. Paul so maybe after I have had a chance to practice

cooking a while, I'll let
you come to dinner there
some time and test the
result. Now if you say
that I can come over
to St. Paul some evening,
don't pick out that evening
to go to the movies or the
circus, and leave me in
the lurch.

Sincerely yours,
Mary V. Carney

11



Maj. R. D. Holcombe
% State Historical Society,
State Capitol,
St. Paul
Minn.

Aurilia Smith
270 So. Exchange St.
Smith

Dear Mr. Holcombe;
I hope you will
let me do your typewriting
for you.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SAINT PAUL

WARREN UPHAM
ARCHAEOLOGIST

Mr. R. D. Holcombe, August 24, 1916.

Dear Friend: My notes received from Capt. Axel G. Reed, Mr. Henry Wadsworth, and Henry S. Simons, our three life members in Glencoe, cover the townships of McLeod county nearly the same as the address of R. G. McClelland at the 50th anniversary of the founding of Hutchinson, to which you kindly directed my attention yesterday. The only additional points which I learned when calling there for Minnesota Geographic Names are few, as follows:

Hassan Valley, the latest organized township, was probably named by the Hutchinsons, and especially by Axel, for the Hassan river, named by the Hutchinsons, the south fork of Brown river;
Lynn Top, probably for Lynn, Mass., where John Hutchinson resided through the latest years of his life;
Hale Top, probably named by the Hutchinsons, for daughter, John P. Hale, of New Hampshire;
Lake Arrington, named for the pioneer, Lewis Arrington;
Nobles Lake, at Hunter, for ^{three brothers,} Daniel, and Alexander Nobles, homesteaders here, the last named being a soldier in Captain Reed's Co. K, Second Minnesota Regt.;
Lake Todd, for brothers Daniel and Jacob Todd, early settlers there;
Gudson Lake, for Gudson [Admiral Gudson Joseph] Whitehinson;
Stahl's Lake, for Charles Stahl, one of the first German immigrants, coming in 1857;
Baker's Lake, for A. C. Baker, early pioneer, who served in Co. D, Fourth Minnesota Regt.; formerly a merchant in Brownston many years; now postmaster there;
Barber's Lake, Lynn, for Dr. . . . Barber, owner of a farm there, but resident in Winona;
Hoey's Lake, for Matthias Hoey, an early settler there, now living in Glencoe;
Lakes Addie and Marion, for daughters of Charles Hoey, who named Minneapolis, and who became a settler here;
Winsted Lake was originally named Lake Eleanor, by Eli F. Lewis, one of the proprietors of Winsted, who came from Winsted, Conn. W. U.

Minneapolis, Minn. September 5, 1916:

Dear Major Holcombe:

Thanks for your letter of the "t'other day." I did mean that you should answer to all those queries en bulk, but that you should be pleased to keep them on your table and hit on on of them as you found some thing relative.

Rice Creek must be a very inconsiderable stream in these days. It is not marked on Winchell's Geological Map. Mr. Upham made the survey and probably furnished a sketch map. Let's ask him.

It is a comfort to find that I am ^{not} alone in slip ups. The otherday I found myself saying that J.R.B. became editor of the Minnesotian when it was started in '50 ot '51.

I wish I could afford to pay you \$300 to read the MS. of Volume I. and eliminate probable errors. And I am doing my best to keep them out.

The time seemed to me short for Ramsey to send down to Snelling for the military and for them to march up to the Traverse. One writer says he bespoke them before going up.

I fear I am to lose this week because I can't get to the library because of the jam of miserable sinners crowding the cars.

With assurances of distinguished consideration, I remain as ever your very much bounden friend and servant,

W.W.F.

ESTABLISHED 1873

H. C. COOPER, Jr. & CO.

PUBLISHERS

~~207 West Monroe St.~~

XXXXXXXXXXXX
CHICAGO, ILL.

XXXXX
191

Winona, Minn., Aug. 29, 1916.

Major Return I. Holcombe,
Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

My dear Major:--

Your letter is at hand, and I was pleased to hear from you. I can realize that you have met with difficulties, and I hope that you will now be able to make good headway.

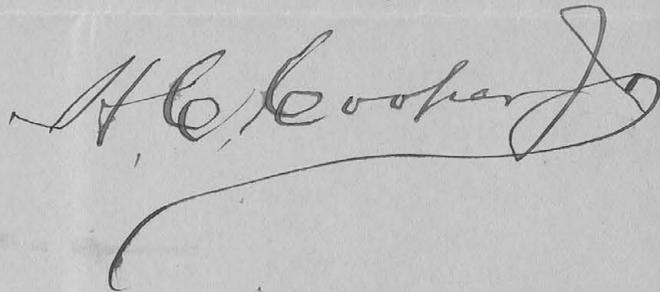
I am enclosing check for \$50 as requested.

I am glad that you were able to help Mr. Wedge. He enjoyed his visit there very much and has appreciated your help.

Mrs. Cooper and I have not had a very good time this summer, it has been very hot and uncomfortable. But it has been that way everywhere, and now the fall days have come we will be more comfortable.

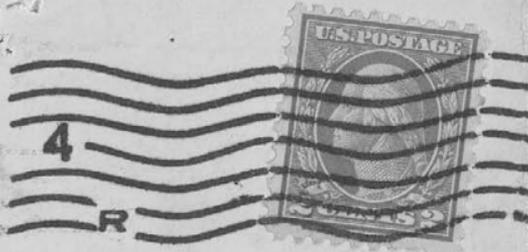
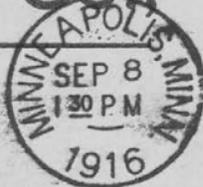
With best wishes, I remain,

Very truly yours,



Fisher Paper Box Co.

Nos. 221-225 First Street North,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN



Ans. Sept 11

Major R. I. Holcombe,

St. Paul,

State Hist. Society.

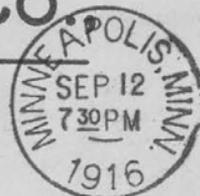
Minn.

have

Clara Butler
281 Fuller Ave.
Lucille C. Haab,
281 Fuller Ave.

Fisher Paper Box Co

Nos. 221-225 First Street North,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN



2 cents

Major R. I. Holecombe,

St. Paul,

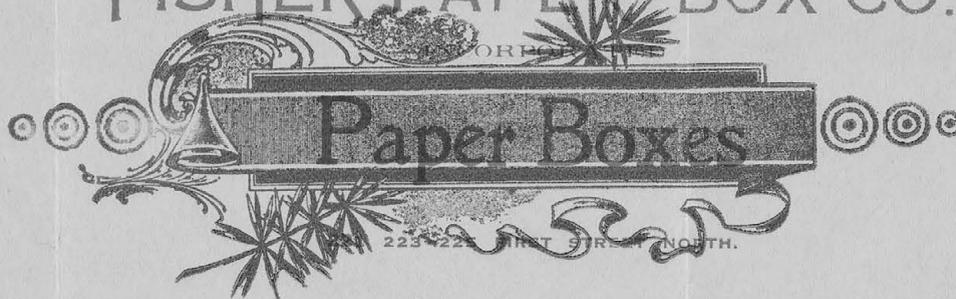
State Hist. Society.

Minn.

The weather is nice and cool now
especially ~~the~~ nights. It is a
fine time for keeping promises.
Wish you were here. Why didn't
you and Mr. M. say good bye
before you left? Hope you are
both well and happy. Everything
the same old style here.

111

FISHER PAPER BOX CO.



MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., August 23, 1916.

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

Dear Friend: Yours received, and many thanks for your commendation of my story. I also had a letter from Dr. Felwell of the same import. With Jay Gould I exclaim "The Public be d_____ " but the commendation of two men like yourselves is most gratifying. He wrote me that you were mixed as to which side of the river Rice Creek was on. Now, you know there were no Indians on the north side, and the Shakopee outfit lived on Rice Creek. That is, there were part of the time two bands and again only one. Ho-cho-ka-duta was undermining the influence of Shakopee all the time, and part of the time had a separate camp. Their dissension is what drew in a lot of vagabond Indians from all the four tribes. I had a letter from a daughter of Little Crow and she says her father got \$2,000 for signing the 1858 settlement of the north side ten mile strip, and that this was one cause of his loss of influence with his people. I expected to go to Fort Ridgely for the 22d, but when I found I would have to go alone, backed out. Hoping that you will get that paper alright, and hoping to see you again before a great while, I am

Respectfully yours,

M. P. Satterlee

P. S. Rice Creek is about a half mile below the Schwandt place. Ran down a ravine to the river similar to Birch Coulie. Is perhaps a dry run now I did not go up to it.

M. P. Satterlee.

Office: 221 First Street North.

Residence: 4849 Emerson Ave. S.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

September 8, 1916.

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

Dear Major: Yours at hand and in theater parlance the mystery deepens. If Little Crow got that \$2,⁸⁵⁷000 in 1852 it must have been a miracle if he kept it till 1862. It would have been more so if the White rascals ever gave it to him. According to Heard pg. 41, the money for Wapasha and Wacouta was stolen from them by Franklin Steele. Mrs. Jane Williams says: The Indians were trying to get her father not to sign the treaty, but he went to Washington and signed the treaty and was paid \$2,000 for it, and that he deposited it in a St. Paul bank. (Possibly this was another \$2000) The receipt is no evidence that the money was paid (witness the Traders Paper with schedule not completed), possibly this money paid to the chiefs in 1852 was for the Indians, as they ^{had} but little coming from the \$275,000 after Ramsey and his co-partners got the Traders fixed up.

I regret your error on Rice Creek, but the man who never makes a mistake, accomplishes little. It is not as bad as Judge Collins who had Lamson "pour his gun barrel full of powder" while prostrate on the ground, or Rev. Cresswell who had Little Crow assemble at New Ulm battle "The finest body of Indian Cavalry ever seen on the American Continent" and his band "Armed with Winchester Rifles". I also regret my "John Other Day" picture in my paper in last years volume--but alas "sich is life". I am still searching for authority for my SIX Indians at the Acton murders. I find this number in the Kandiyohi Co. Hist pg 18, also in Bryant & Murch's Minn. Valley pg 195. I have been unable to find mention of Island Cloud as the leader of the 20 Indians who went out. Where did you get it? What makes me stick to the SIX so hard is the stories of my friends about Atwater who were there at the time. They are certain there were six in the reports at the time, added to this is Rev. Pond's statement of the participation

in the first bloodshed. I may visit Middle Creek and the Upper Agency this fall. I offered to go with Dr. Felwell, but he says he cannot travel very well. What you say about Mrs. VanCleve's Shakepee who ran the gauntlet is in keeping with my information, but she writes as though he~~w~~ was an Indian she well knew, and I was rattled up on it. By the way have you ever got hold of a list of the condemned Sioux taken to Rock Island? Congressman Smith has endeavored to find one for me but in vain. There was a list made for the Sisseton Trial but it was not printed except those executed at Mankato. There is no list of the prisoners at Camp Release, and I hope to make one of my own soon.

By the way in looking over my "Thomas Smith" letter to you it does not seem plain as to the disposition of the family. Thomas Smith, father was killed--William with the father escaped to the fort--John went to the fort with Schlumberger--Thomas a son, was at Baltimore (or at least in the east) with the family of a U. S. army officer--the Mother and Mary escaped to the fort. No one was killed with Thomas, at least eye witnesses do not mention other than Thomas Smith.

Hoping to get a chance to see you again soon, I am

Yours truly,

M. P. Satterlee

FISHER PAPER BOX CO.



MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., September 12, 1916.

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

Dear Major: In re Little Crew's alleged \$2,000. Little Crew was a moving spirit in the sale of the upper ten-mile strip. "Little Crew managed this matter, and sanctioned the sale etc"- S. D. Hist. Coll vol 11 pg 264. *Bryant* ~~Heard~~ pg 26--"In 1858, the chiefs and headmen of these tribes, accompanied by their agent, Maj. J. R. Brown, visited Washington." Duringg this visit to their great father they entered into another treaty with the government. By this treaty they relinquished their claim to the north half of their reservation, etc" As I understand it this is the time that L. C. got the \$2000. Joe ~~Crossell~~ ^u told me that some Indians had seen the money at the time. But you know Indians.

Howard Baker was Jones' son-in-law, or rather the son of Jones wife, who was formerly Mrs. Ann Baker. They were married by Justice Bright the December previous to the massacre.

Thomas Smith and son William started toward the fort, and when some distance beyond Magners heard of the trouble at the Agency, and tunned back. Meeting Magners son William stopped to talk, the father keeping on. *the way back was killed at Magners.* Indians appeared and the boys fled, became separated, but reached the fort. Thomas the father was killed at Magners'. John, younger than William, fled with Schlumberger (who he had stayed with over night) to fort. Mother and Mary made their way from LaCroix Creek to Magners, and after hiding awhile, and suffering from mosquitos, took to the road and reached the fort. To account for Thomas Jr., would say that he was in the east in a family of an army officer. No

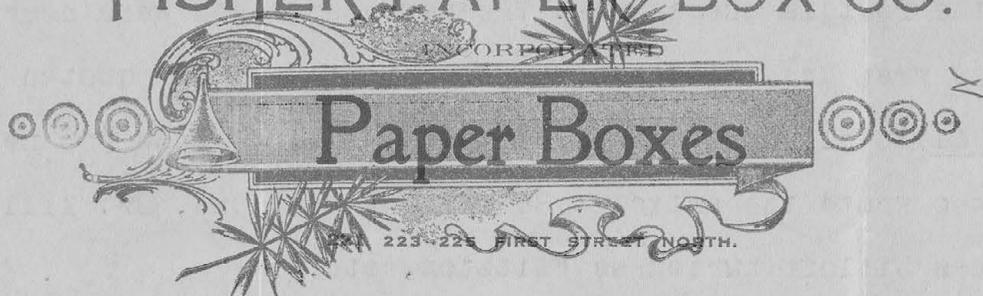
person was with Thomas Sr. when he was killed. Koran Horan ^{husband of Margaret King Horan; recently deceased,} says he saw him killed, but mentions no one else. (Bryant pg 111) David O'Connell and Patrick Kelly single men were killed near this place but had no relation with the Smith affair. This may have occurred near the Magner place. The mother of O'Connell was at the fort. Nor can I find anyone else who might have been killed near Smith. I think your information may be of O'Connell and that it occurred at a nearby house or place.

I have studied a great deal on the "Six Indians" at Acton. There is no question that six were there, but you assert that two went away. Mrs. Baker was in the house and was paying no attention to the Indians, Mrs. Webster was in the covered wagon and was so secreted that the Indians did not know she was there. A son-in-law of Eckland (I think) told me that Mrs. Eckland said "two came to the door, and one at each window at Peter Wicklund's while they were at dinner" and took the men out a little ways and told them that the Chippewas had done the killing at Jones and Bakers. Evan Evanson who was in the party that went to Bakers' that night said his information and belief was that there was six. Al. DeLong, Homer Mikelson and several others who were at the inquest and funeral next day say they understand and remember it as six. It was common report that two Indians ^{two} on horses and a third holding to the tail, running, were seen Monday afternoon going toward the Minnesota river. I hope to go to the Upper Agency and vicinity soon, if the miserable rains let up so the road dries up. Hoping this finds you in good health and spirits, I am

Respectfully yours,

M. P. Sattler

FISHER PAPER BOX CO.



MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., September 14, 1916.

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

Dear Major: I don't want to dispute, but do want to argue as that is the real way to get information. As I understand it L. C. was bribed to sign the 1858 treaty, and of course you would ^{have to} be on the inside to know as to this. As to the other 1851 \$2000 all the Indians must have known he received this as it must have been the balance of the \$275,000 after the Traders and Ramsey and Tyler got their part. I do not think Ramsey would have put it on record if it had been bribe money. You say "Wabasha the head chief of the Minnesota Sioux". From S. D. vol. II, I find that one L. C. was appointed "Chief of the Dakota Tribes" ^{by Pike and as recognized} pg109, and on the advice of Wapasha pg. 122. The 1851 ^{money} was "To be paid to the Chiefs in open Council" and this receipt of the Chiefs was Ramsey's bluff to cover the stipulation.

The history by A. C. Smith, Land Agent at Forest City, and general Poo Bah when he could crowd in, is not generally credited by residents of Acton vicinity. Neither was he County Atty as you will see a report from the Co. Atty in the Adj-Gen. report for 1862. (If you look this up please notice the horrible mutilation of names, and the 4 "Rufs" were ^{former residents of Forest City} Reyffs, who were killed at Middle Creek). Island Cloud may have been like Two Stars in testifying about "Runs against a picket stake" in Sisseton Cl. Heard probably got his information through Smith. His history is a tale of errors at any rate, in fact I can scratch nearly every page of the written history with errors (printed books I mean) and then touch only what I know. This is why I wish some one would write an authentic account. I still hang to the

stories of settlers rather than the printed accounts. The military part is dependable the rest is guess work. The reporters then were nearly as bad as now. I see when Mrs. Williams was down that you were quoted and the "treaty of 1861" is alluded to several times, which I know you never gave the stupid who wrote the article. But Bryant has Juni, Sr. killed while yet alive--has Zitloff byrried as "Sitzton, etc.

You are right about about Horan, but he was the brother of Hern, and kept the Irish style of name while the others spell it Hern which is the way Horan is pronounced. I got this from Mrs. Hern years ago when she was my music teacher.

The Coroners inquest at Acton was a very informal affair from tales of settlers. Settlers gathered to bury the dead about 10 o'clock. Some discussed the affair, some made wooden boxes to bury in, some investigated the vicinity for traces of clues to the cause. Many of them blamed Jones and his wife for getting the Indians drunk. The Jones family was not in good repute among them. Only a semblance of an inquest was held and some deny that there was anything of the kind. When the boxes were ready, ^{about 10 o'clock} they started east to the Ness settlement cemetery. When but a few rods from the Baker house. eleven Indians appeared on a hill a short distance off. The settlers tried to approach these Indians to see if they knew anything of the affair, when they turned and fled to the south crossing an outlet from a marsh south of Jones' place. Capt. Atkinson, Al. DeLong and others tried to follow. When the Indians had crossed, ~~xxxxixx~~ and the whites unable to find the path became mired and got back on shore, they stoped and fired a shot over their heads, when the whites fired on them at a great distance. Atkinson, DeLong and another man went around the marsh and followed the ~~xxx~~ trail several miles and tho they saw them could not come up with them and they went into the woods near Bake Lillian. The rest of the party buried the bodies at the Ness cemetery. Mrs. Jones is buried there under the name of "Mary Ann Baker" a blunder of our monument builders, or the cupidity of some enemy of Jones. Such is the story told me in 1896 and confirmed later when the monument "First Blood was set.

Satterlee

From Edith Sipple.
Albert Lea, Minn.

ALBERT LEA

SEP 19 16

2 — PM

MINN.



Major R. L. Holcombe,
370 E. 10th St.,

~~ans~~
Sept. 22

St Paul, Minn.

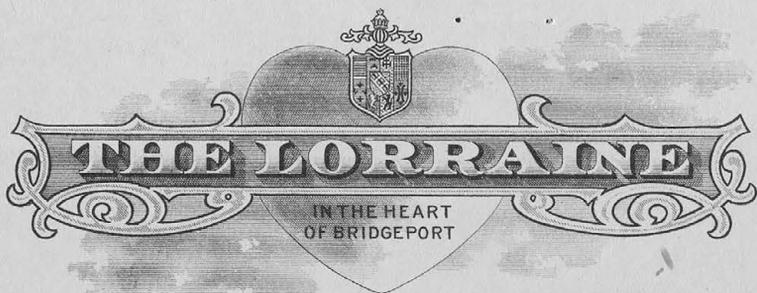
Sept 17-1916

Dear Uncle Bob, -

We arrived home safely after a very pleasant three days sojourn at the Cities and Fair. And want to take this opportunity of extending to you our thanks for your kindness to us and interest shown us while at St Paul, and wish to assure

you that we appreciate your
interest in us three little strangers
immensely. And trust it will
be our pleasure to meet again
at some time. Should you
ever happen to be at Albert
Sea we trust you will look us up.
Agnes has started to school
and I am busy at the office
since our return.

We shall be more than
pleased to hear from you occasionally.
Sincerely, Three Supple Sisters (per Edith)



BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

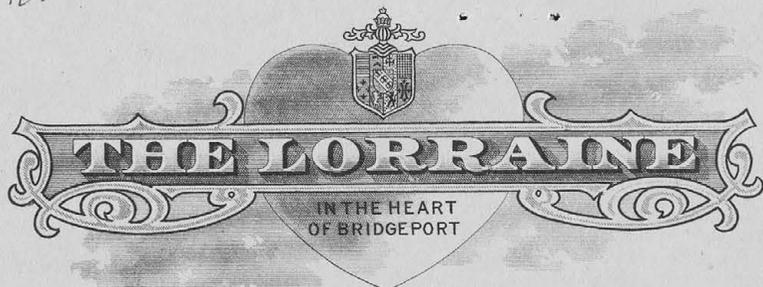
Sept 17-16

My dear Maf:

Many moons have
come and gone since I
have heard a word from
you, but I am taking a
chance that you are
still in the land of the
living and able to sit
up and take notice.

I have a work opened
here and planning to
open another one soon

wolves

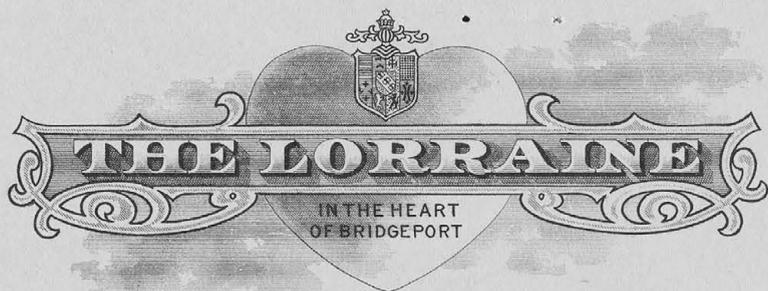


2

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

So you can see the importance of not saying any thing to Cooper or the rest of the Wolves engaged in my line of endeavor. I will send you a pros. in a few days.

I have often wondered what our mutual friend Mr. Buck had to say in his review

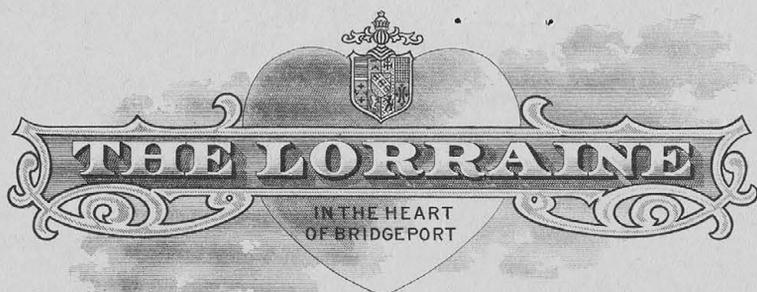


3

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

regarding our Park,
County work. If you
can get a copy send
it to me @ Hotel.

This is my first appearance
in the east and I
shall reserve my opinion
of the country and the
people until some future
date. I would enjoy
a good visit with you
but in view of the fact



4

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

that I can not afford
the phone charges from
here to St Paul I will
have to wait until
you favor me with
a long letter.

Please number me
to Miss Jett and Mr
Upham and write me
here c/o Hotel. I remain
as ever

Very truly yours
Bingham

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SAINT PAUL

WARREN UPHAM
ARCHAEOLOGIST

In Travel for Minnesota Geographic Names,
at Roseau, Minn., Wednesday mg, ^{Sept. 23} 1916.
60 Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul,

Dear Friend: This is one of the most remote parts of my travels in gathering the origins and meanings of our Place Names, being here about 20 miles southwest of the Lake of the Woods. The present journey is to visit seventeen county-seats of N. W. and W. Minnesota, returning about Oct. 3-5. There will then remain only half a dozen, near to St. Paul, all to be reached before Oct. 20. Then I shall have visited for this work each of our eighty-six counties since my starting on my first trip last April, this being the last of the five long journeys.

Are you making good progress with McLeod County?
I hope you will make that such a success that the Cooper Co. will similarly assign to you, at good salary, others of our yet unwritten counties, to be added to your credit roll as an expert local historian. For such work much of the encouragement to go forward to new ground comes from good crops, giving the farmers and others sufficient means for subscriptions. This is only an average crop year, less bountiful than ^{one} me, but I hope that this publishing company will see the way ahead to keep you and Chartiss-Wedge going forward on new counties.

Sincerely yours, Warren Upham
Archaeologist.

Saint Paul, Minnesota,

September 26, 1916.

Mr. J. C. Cooper, Jr. & Co.,

Winona, Minnesota.

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Yesterday I was out to the house of Mrs. Schmidt and spoke to her about the matter of her delinquency in paying for her copy of her portrait in the history of Renville. To my surprise she made a statement to me that her financial circumstances were very bad but she will eventually pay you in full, having already paid you \$15.00 on account. I was disappointed in her for she made a statement, "That you ought to take back one of the volumes in which she was not particularly interested!" I think in time that you will get your money all right.

Regards to Mrs. Cooper and best wishes to yourself I am

Very truly yours,

R. I. H. *E. W.

Omaha, Neb., Oct. 9/ 1916.

R. I. Holcombe,
372 East 10th.,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

In July, 1914, just before the bottom dropped out of everything, I wrote you a letter inquiring about the old Cheyenne Indian village sites in the Minnesota and eastern North Dakota region and received a very courteous reply from you. In your letter you referred to an article by S.R.Riggs, describing the Cheyenne village site on Sheyenne River, near the present Lisbon, N.D, an article printed in a St. Paul paper, 1863. You offered at the time to have a copy made from this article if I would pay the cost of the copying. I wrote to you and intended to write again and ask you to get a copy of the article made for me; but the war broke out, and since then I have been too busy with other people's affairs to pay much attention to my Cheyenne studies. I should now, ~~however~~, be very much obliged if you would have a copy of this Riggs article typewritten out for me, and if you will let me know what the expense will be, I will send the money to you.

I have learned since writing to you in 1914 that the Sioux as late as 1875 had a pretty clear tradition that the Cheyennes built a village on the old Fort Wadsworth military reserve. That would be near the west shore of Big Stone Lake; This was an earth-lodge village, probably built before the Lisbon, N.D. village. The remains of the village could still be seen in the later '70's. That would make their early movements pretty clear: from near Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle to west side Big Stone Lake, then to Lisbon, then to Standing Rock on the west bank of the Missouri,

1-2-

then up Cheyenne River, South Dakota, to the Black Hills, where they arrived about 1760. From the Black Hills they moved on south clear to the Texas Panhandle--a remarkable migration, the longest recorded one, I think, of any tribe on the continent.

I should be much obliged if you would write me about this Riggs article.

Are you interested in Indian corn? I have about 100 ears from 10 or twelve tribes, and will send you some seed if you would care for it.

Very truly yours,

Geo. E. Hyde,

3019 Burdette St.,

Omaha, Nebr.

Omaha, Neb., Oct. 17, 1916.

Mr. R. I. Holcombe,
370 E. 10th Str.,
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Sir:

I have just received your letter of the 14th, and the copy of Mr. Riggs's description of the old Cheyenne village on Sheyenne River. I am very much pleased with the copy. Of course there is only about a page of it, but it is the earliest description of the site I have ever heard of, and it ~~m~~ shows clearly the condition of the ground before it was plowed. The careful survey made a few years ago was not very satisfactory, as about half of the ground had been under plow for many years.

I am also glad to have the other extracts from Mr. Riggs and Dr. Williamson, which you send with the Cheyenne village letter. I have always had a high respect for the publications of the Minnesota Historical Society, but our library here, in the largest city of the state, has not one volume either of Minnesota, North or South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Missouri. Just two old volumes of Kansas Historical Society. When I want to look up something in any of these books I have to go by train to Lincoln and the Nebraska Historical Society Library.

Yes, I have the Handbook of Amer. Indians, Bureau of Ethnology. Also the Bureau's 27th Report containing the big history of the Omahas, in which there is a tradition that the Omahas on arriving near the Red Pipestone Quarry formed a league with the Iowas, evidently then on Minnesota River, with

2- 15
the Cheyennes and with some other tribes. This story seems to bear out the Sioux traditions that the Cheyennes and Iowas were neighbors and lived on the upper Minnesota .

I have nothing new about the Cheyennes in Minnesota. Their real history begins on Sheyenne River at the village Mr. Riggs describes. Everything back of that village is based on vague Indian tradition. I am convinced that their trail across Minnesota from the north down to Yellow Medicine will finally be definitely. We find a new piece of information every little while, and I know there must be a mass of unpublished material still unknown to us.

I am enclosing a money-order for \$2 to reimburse you for the cost of the copying.

I am enclosing a photograph of a Spanish silver medal of Carlos III, plowed up in a cornfield in Nebraska last year. You know the Spanish governor of Upper Louisiana sent Trudeau up the Missouri in 1794 to distribute medals, flags and chiefs' commissions to the tribes, and he went up as far as the present town of Bismarck, N.D. This medal, however, seems to have been given to the Indians prior to Trudeau's expedition, as Carlos III was dead and his son Carlos IV on the throne when Trudeau went up the river.

I am also sending you a colored drawing of a queer flag found in the sacred war-bundle of the Omahas a few years ago. No one in the tribe knows where the flag came from. It is not of Indian make but is extremely well made and evidently of government standard, yet no one can tell what it is. I thought at first it was one of the Spanish flags that Trudeau gave to all

of the Missouri River chiefs, but in a book of colored plates I found about 30 different Spanish flags shown and not one remotely like this. You will note that it is a "Jack" flag of the kind the English are so fond of. I have seen colored plates of about 40 different English Jacks, but not one has any yellow on it. I have an idea that this was a private flag of one of the British fur companies of Canada, whose traders often penetrated to the Missouri between the year 1780 and 1814. Can you throw any light on the origin of the flag? I am quite sure it is British, because it is a Jack, and I am equally sure it is not a British or Canadian government flag, because of the yellow.

If you ever need any information about the tribes out here or in the country between the Missouri and Minnesota, I shall be very glad to give you any assistance in my power. Thanking you again for the copy of the Riggs letter,

I am very sincerely yours,

Geo. E. Hyde

3019 Burdette St.

Omaha, Nebr.

Can you tell me anything of this Major J.R. Brown whom Riggs speaks of as a visitor of the Cheyenne villages on Sheyenne River? Riggs says Brown was at the site in 1836. I can find no record of an expedition to the Red River-Sheyenne River region at that date. Perhaps Col. H.H. Sibley speaks of Maj. Brown in his accounts of early Minnesota affairs. I thought Brown might have left a description of the village.

ESTABLISHED 1873

H. C. COOPER, JR. & CO.
PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS

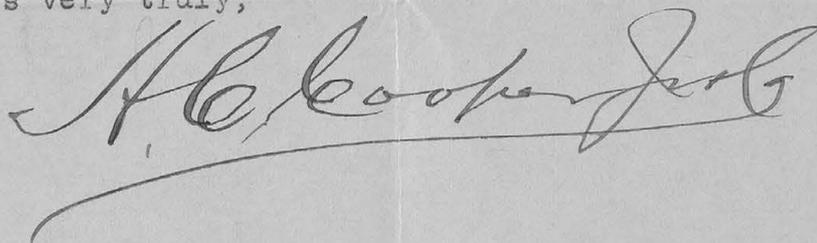
Winona, Minn.
October 21, 1916

Maj. R. Holcombe,
Historical Library,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

We are now hard at work arranging the material Mr. Jones collected for the History of McLeod County and would be pleased to know how you are progressing. Would also like to know whether you have covered the county seat fight between Hutchinson and Glencoe, as some of the people in both places seem to think that is an important subject - they spoke to Mr. Jones about it and asked if it was going to be covered. With best wishes,

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H. C. Cooper, Jr.", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

THE ENGINEERS
H. C. COOPER, JR. & CO.
PUBLISHERS AND ENGINEERS

11

Box 243

Oct. 22, 1916

Dear Mr. Colcombe:

I have received your letter of the 20th and thank you for the reference in Niell's History to the Sioux chief who had the Spanish commission dated 1781. I enclose you herewith a copy ((translation) of a similar commission, given to Blackbird, chief of the Omahas. The original is in the Nebraska Historical Society museum at Lincoln, Neb.

In the Indian Handbook, volume one, under the heading "Medals" you will see that a Spanish medal of Carlos III was found in an Indian grave at P. du Chien on the Mississippi, 1863, I think. This P. du Chien medal is somewhat larger than the one found in Nebraska, but as you will see in the Blackbird commission, the Nebraska chiefs were made "Chiefs of the Small Medal." These medals seem to have been all the regular Spanish military or Service medals, as the Spanish government did not strike any special Indian medals.

§ Zenon Trudeau is the man you refer to. He was governor at St. Louis ("Upper Louisiana"?) and it was his brother's son, J.B. Trudeau, who made the trip up the Missouri.

The medal of which I sent you a photograph was found on the Republican River near McCook, Neb, away out in the old Pawnee hunting grounds. I am pretty sure it is a Pawnee medal, as the Republican band of Pawnees had a village out there for a long time before 1820.

A letter published in the Illinois Historical Society Collections v.XI says that in 1766 the French at St. Louis were trading as far up the Mississippi at St. Anthony Falls and also as far east as Green Bay. This was just after the conquest of Canada, when the British traders had not yet entered the new country and the old French trade from Canada along the Great Lakes had been killed by the war. p.301, Gordon's Journal, 1766.

Our state historical society has never ~~px~~ published any journals or good accounts of the early French and Spanish explorers and traders. I have a lot of notes from various sources, but most of these accounts are mere mentions of expeditions, or brief narratives lacking all details.

Sincerely yours,

Geo. E. Hyde,

3019 Burdette,

Omaha, Nebr.

Oct 22 / 1916

No, there is nothing about the medal and the flag in Neb. Hist. Cols. I have a letter from the farmer who plowed up the medal in his cornfield. The flag is pictured in the 27th report B. of Ethnology, where it is stated that nothing is known about its origin and no one can tell what flag it is.

Translation.

The Baron of Carondelet, Knight of the Order of St. John, Field Marshal of the Royal Armies, Governor General, Vice Lord of the Manor of the Provinces of Louisiana and western Florida, Sub-Inspector General of the Troops and Militias of the same.

In consideration of the proofs of fidelity and friendship which we have had from the Indian called Wazinga Sabe, (L'Oiseau Noir) of the Mahas Nation maintaining strict union with the Spaniards, and venerating the respectable and high name of our Catholic Monarch (whom God preserve) Emperor of Spain and the Indies, from his bravery and influence among all of the neighboring nations, and from his knowledge and excellent ability to command with the skill that is required,

Therefore desiring to reward such commendable circumstances we have decided to name him as Chief of the Small Medal, advising him of the estimation in which he should hold it, and the obligation he is under to govern his people well, maintaining them in the quiet and respect which they owe to the Spaniards and teaching the veneration which is due to the great King of Spain. Therefore we order the commanders of the ports of this Province, officers, soldiers, and citizens to recognize him as Chief of the Small Medal. As to the Indians of his nation and others whoever they may be, they shall all respect and obey him.

Given in New Orleans on the 12th of May 1796. By order of His Excellency, Andres Lopez Arniestro.

The Baron Carondelet.

(Original in the State Historical Museum, Lincoln, Nebraska.)

ESTABLISHED 1873

H. C. COOPER, JR. & CO.
PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS

Winona, Minn.
October 31, 1916

Maj. R.I. Holcombe,
%Historical Library,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

We are getting anxious to receive the historical matter you have written for the McLeod County History. As you will remember, you expected to have it finished by September 1st and it is now two months later. It is our great desire to complete the work this year- we mean complete and deliver it, and to do so we should now have your manuscript in hand. After it is received we shall have to add to it the data Mr. ~~Mr~~ Jones collected in the county-dovetail it on to yours, so to speak, reading your data over first to avoid duplications. This we wish to do in the office, as we have all of Mr. Jones's data here. He got some data which we do not know whether to use or not until we see your manuscript. It is very important that we should have it soon so that we may not be delayed in getting out the work. How soon can you let us have it? An early reply will greatly oblige,

Yours truly,

H. C. Cooper Jr.

ESTABLISHED 1873

H. C. COOPER, JR. & CO.
PUBLISHERS AND ENGRAVERS

Winona, Minn.
Nov. 4, 1916

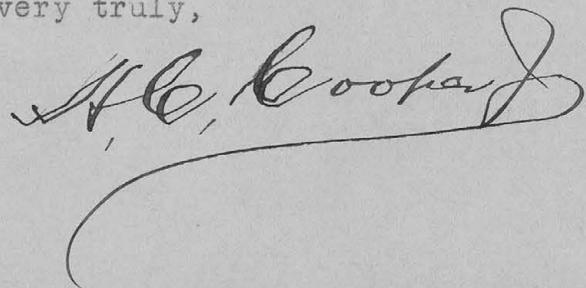
Maj. R. I. Holcombe,
Historical Society Rooms,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

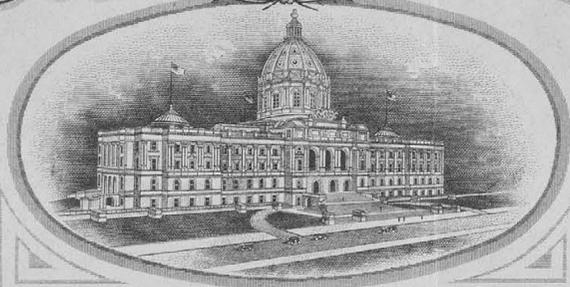
Your letter of the 3d inst. received. We appreciate your reasons for delay and are sorry you have been sick. As we said in our last, we are anxious to get the material you have prepared, but if you can send it to us in two weeks (all of it) we prefer to wait, rather than have you send us a part only, as Mr. Jones has not got much of the very early data anyway; what he has will have to be introduced elsewhere and we cannot tell where until we see your entire copy. Mr. Jones had some ten years' experience in county history work with a Chicago firm, the Richmond-Arnold Publishing Co.- and so is familiar with it and will know what to put in of his own and where to put it, and what to leave out. He arranged and chaptered most of the books that company got out, but if we need your help on that part of the work after we see your copy will consult with you. If your copy (historical) is as plainly written as your letter, you will not need to type it. Hoping that you may have no further sickness-for your own sake,

We are,

Yours very truly,



STATE OF MINNESOTA



House of Representatives

39TH SESSION

SIXTY-SECOND DISTRICT
L. G. PENDERGAST,
Bemidji, Minnesota,
Beltrami County.

Mr R J Holcombe
Rt Paid

Bemidji Nov 5th 1916

Dear Comrade

I enlisted + mustered May 4th 1861 in
Co D. 1st Minn. was transferred to Co J.
same regiment, was transferred Oct 23rd 1862
to Co B. 1st U S Cavalry + officially discharged
May 14th 1864 but my discharge was dated June 27th
When my term was out was with Sheridan
down near Richmond. I was never discharged
for disability never transferred to the 4th U S Cav
and never died in the Hospital. You can't go
by the Ann. History. You will see the name of
Daniel Butler in Co B- of the 1st + no history
I think he served the whole time of 3 years
Rollins Burnham enlisted in Co. J. + I think
discharged for disability. We 3 were all from the East
to in the 1st Reg.

You can see my records in the
Adgt Emerich office in regard to my
service in the 1st Div. I have a copy
of my discharge from the 1st U.S. Cavalry
so you can rely on what I can tell you
I know you do not think I died in
the Hospital, because if I intended to die
it would be in the front line of battle
during duty.
L. H. Pendergast



Greetings on this Thanksgiving Day,
Rejoicing in its abundance.
May you have a Happy Heart and
A Hearty Appetite.

Post Card

AGG
NOV 28
3:30 PM
7916



THIS SPACE FOR CORRESPONDENCE ONLY

ONLY THE ADDRESS MAY BE WRITTEN HERE

Mrs. L.C.C. 11

11/28/16
a very happy and
joyous Thanksgiving
Day.
Elsie C. Fischer

© THE GIBSON ART CO., CIN., O.



Mrs. R. L. Holcombe
% The State Capitol
St. Paul
Main

St. Paul, Minn.,
December 11, 1916.

Miss Elvye E. Fischer,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Miss Fischer:

It is with
regret that I tell you Major
R. L. Holcombe died November
21 last and was buried
November 25th.

Yours truly,
E. Webster.