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New-York, January, 1866.

To the Elders of the Presbyterian Church.

DEAR BRETHREN:

We desire to address you fraternally as members with us in the brotherhood of Christ and in the Eldership of that branch of His Church which it is our privilege to serve.

By the minutes of our General Assembly for 1864, it appears that we then had 1,442 Churches on our rolls. Each of these Churches has, of course, one or more ruling Elders; 940 of these having less than 100 communicants each, will not probably average more than two Elders, the remaining 502 Churches will, we presume, average five each. If these figures approximate the truth, we have in the service of the Churches connected with our Assembly 4,370 ordained ruling Elders; men selected by the respective congregations whom they serve, for their piety, knowledge of the Scriptures, Christian experience and ability to be overseers in the house of God.

On these Elders devolve responsibilities of the greatest importance. In respect to the congregations by whom they have been placed in office and to the whole Church, they are clothed with powers and charged with duties of the highest character. In all that relates to the general discipline and oversight of the Churches, in the *Session*, the *Presbytery*, the *Synod* and the *General Assembly*, the Ministry and the Eldership have *equal* responsibilities and powers. Our General Assembly says with reference to this point (see digest page 56), "It is a recognized principle of our Church polity in accordance, as we believe, with apostolic teaching, that Bishops, Ministers and Elders, constitute but one grade or rank of officers in the Church of Christ; and hence that in all our Church judicatories they have equal rights and powers. In all the judicial business of the Church, all are Presbyters alike." This then is the recognized position of the Eldership in the Presbyterian Church, a position of great honor, and, if rightly occupied, of great usefulness. Honorable indeed, just in the degree of the fidelity to the Master with which its responsibilities are met. HARLAN PAGE, JOSEPH BREWSTER, ELISHA TAYLOR, OTIS ALLEN, and a host of others, our beloved brethren, who have finished their course and entered into glory, honored the Eldership and were honored in it, because (like their Divine Master), it was their meat and drink to do the will of God in their high office and to finish the work which he had given them to do.

Were all the Elders in our Church clothed with *their* spirit, what an aggregate of Christian and moral power would our ranks present. How greatly the spiritual wants of our beloved land and of a dying world would be promoted. Whilst we may properly rejoice and give thanks to God in view of all the good which as a Christian people we have been able to accomplish, is it not evident that the demands of our country and of the heathen world will never be supplied until the Church is far more thoroughly aroused to a sense of duty and to appropriate action?

All of us, all the redeemed people of the Lord, are solemnly pledged before heaven and earth to make the upbuilding of His Kingdom our *supreme object*. Are we living as Christians and Elders so as daily to redeem this pledge? Is it true of us that our supreme object in life is to build up the Kingdom of our glorious Redeemer? Is the sanctification of the Church and the salvation of sinners, *the great object* to which in our esteem all others are secondary?

Could these questions be answered in the affirmative by the 4,370 Elders in our Church, what glorious results would at once appear! How would revivals of religion be multiplied, the hands of the ministry be strengthened, sinners in great multitudes be converted and the Church be built up in her most holy faith.

It was in view of such thoughts and questions as these, that it was suggested to invite a meeting of the Elders who should attend the General Assembly at Dayton in 1864, with the Elders of the Churches in that city, to consult as to the desirableness of attempting to secure a meeting of Elders at each Session of the General Assembly for the purpose of prayer and conference with special reference to the duties of the Eldership.

After consulting the Moderator of the Assembly, the invitation was given and a meeting of Elders was convened at Dayton, at which Hon. SAML. H. PERKINS of Philadelphia, presided; the subject was discussed and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of five Elders be appointed to consider the expediency of calling a meeting of Elders at Brooklyn during the Sessions of the next General Assembly for the purpose of prayer and conference, with reference to the work of the Eldership, with power to call such a meeting if they shall deem it expedient. Elders WILLIAM A. BOOTH, SAML. H. PERKINS, JNO. MILTON SMITH, JAS. B. PINNEO, WM. CHURCHILL, JESSE W. BENEDICT and OTIS ALLEN were appointed such Committee.

The Committee thus appointed deemed it expedient to call the meeting as indicated in the resolution. It was held on two evenings in the spacious Church of which the Rev. THEODORE L. CUYLER is Pastor; was largely attended by the Elders who were members of the Assembly, and by the Elders of the Churches of New-York and Brooklyn, and the exercises were deeply interesting. Elder WM. A. BOOTH presided and Elder JNO. MILTON SMITH acted as Secretary. At the second meeting the following subjects were specially considered:

What are the indispensable means of preparation for efficiency in the Eldership?
What are the responsibilities of the Eldership?—

1. To the Church, local and general;
2. To the Ministry;
3. To the Sabbath School;
4. To the Judicatories of the Church;
5. To the Country and the World.

and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, it seems desirable that a meeting of Elders for conference on subjects pertaining to their office should be held annually during the Sessions of the General Assembly; therefore,

Resolved, That a Committee of seven, including the Chairman of this meeting, be appointed to call a meeting similar to this during the Sessions of the next General Assembly, and to address a circular to the Elders connected with our Church, requesting from each answers to such questions as the Committee shall deem calculated to promote the interests of the Churches and the honor of the Master.

Resolved, That the Committee have authority to report rules and regulations for future meetings.

Elders WALTER S. GRIFFITH, W. A. BOOTH, OLIVER E. WOOD, J. MILTON SMITH, New-York and Brooklyn; Hon. E. D. MANSFIELD, of Ohio; EBENEZER B. JONES, Esq., Penn Yan, N. Y.; RUSSELL SCARRITT, Esq., St. Louis, Mo., were appointed the Committee contemplated in the resolution.

We now address you in the discharge of our duty as the Committee thus appointed, for the purpose, by a meeting comprising a much larger number of ruling Elders than was ever assembled in this country before.

It seems to us very desirable that all the Elders of our Churches shall be interested in these initial measures to excite a deeper interest in the great work committed to us and to cultivate the spirit of brotherly love and sympathy. We send this circular therefore to the Session of each Church enrolled on the minutes of the Assembly, and a number sufficient to place a copy in the hands of each of the Elders. It is our earnest hope that we may receive a reply from every Elder into whose hands this shall go.

A meeting will be held during the Sessions of the next General Assembly at St. Louis, similar to those held this year at Brooklyn, and it seems very important to secure a full attendance of Elders at that Assembly. May we not hope that you will do all in your power to promote the election and attendance of the Elder or Elders which your Presbytery is entitled to send, and as many more as possible? That we may be able to present to that meeting the most important facts relating to the Eldership, its members, and efficiency in our Churches, and some statistics which can be gathered from no other source, we subjoin a list of inquiries and earnestly request that you will aid us in our work by giving as full and careful answers as practicable to each of these questions. To some of them you may not be able or willing to give any answer, but we indulge the hope that you will favor us with replies to most of them as early as possible.

Please direct your reply to the Secretary of the Committee, J. MILTON SMITH, Esq., President of the Arctic Fire Insurance Company, No. 18 Wall Street, New-York.

We shall be happy to have you add such remarks touching the subject as you may feel inclined to make.

WALTER S. GRIFFITH,
WM. A. BOOTH,
OLIVER E. WOOD,
E. D. MANSFIELD,
EBENEZER B. JONES,
RUSSELL SCARRITT.
J. MILTON SMITH.

Committee.

INQUIRIES ADDRESSED TO THE ELDERS

BY A COMMITTEE OF ELDERS,

Appointed at Brooklyn, May, 1865.

I.—What is the name of your Church?

II.—What is the name of your Presbytery?

III.—How many Elders are now in office in your Church?

IV.—Please give their Names, Ages and Post Office Address respectively:

NAMES.

AGES.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS.

- V.—Are your Elders elected to serve for life or term of years?
- VI.—Have you a Minister? Is he installed as Pastor?
- VII.—Do you hold stated and regular meetings of the Session?
- VIII.—How frequently do the Session meet?
- IX.—Does the Church meet weekly for prayer and conference?
- X.—Are these meetings conducted by the Elders or the Pastor?
- XI.—How many of your Elders take part in speaking or }
leading in prayer in the meetings of the Church? }
- XII.—Do the Elders unite or co-operate with the Pastor }
in visiting the members of the Church? }
- XIII.—How recently have you enjoyed a special revival of }
religion in your Church? }
- How many were then added to the Church?
- How many of them were members of your Sabbath School?
- XIV.—How many of your Elders are engaged in any capacity }
in the Sabbath School work? }
- XV.—Is your Sabbath School under the supervision of the Session?
- XVI.—Have you any Mission Schools connected with your Church? If so, how many?
- XVII.—Does your Church regularly observe the monthly concert }
of Prayer for the conversion of the world? }
- Is it well attended?
- By whom is it conducted and how?
- XVIII.—Do you take up regular contributions to the great benevo- }
lent operations of the Church, as FOREIGN MISSIONS; }
HOME MISSIONS; EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY; PUBLICATION? }
- XIX.—What salary do you pay your Pastor?
- Is it paid to him promptly when due?
- How much has it been increased within the last three years?
- Does what he now receives afford him a comfortable support?
- XX.—Are there any young men in your Church who have resolved }
to devote themselves to the Ministry? }
- Are there any others whose talents and piety are such that you }
think they ought to do so? }
- Do your Session keep this subject before themselves and the }
Church as a prominent subject of thought, attention and }
prayer? }
- XXI.—Do you take special care always to have one of your Elders at }
the meetings of Presbytery and Synod? }
- How often during the last five years have you failed to be re- }
presented by an Elder at a meeting of Presbytery or Synod? }

3

Febr 1 1866

Mihunkarwanji Jamakoe
Eto laku wanji ortanna
elunpi wacin lu anputu
kin nis eto nayarun kta
wacin ga huon wonapi eieu
lunkaske kin din wicasta
toma winwinea yuhapi tuka
ortanna elunpi smi kin
huna eto ortanna elun wi
cayasi kta wacin unkiye
taku unkeyapi kin naun
runpi smi okimi miye na
mirunpi kinhan lutan wa
ste kta spea huna ortan
na elunpi smi een make
a tokeea ekta yapi kinhan

Hehan iytan mina skampi
kinhan huan kiska orasin
Cyutan wicayapi kta epea
detanhan tokata tuwe wi
minta wangi yulu kta
cinhan wakan yuze kta
epea wacan wicortan tona
sila yulu unkiagapi
kin huna orasin urtanna
unholustampi kta wacin
ilo wanna orasin ueliya
ke kta do

Carape Tatepuyewin 1
Wakandorwan Tatejatewin 2
Patannina Tumaga 3
Sagye kitunna Wiholega 4
Tawalinkpe Tipicjanjan win 5
Cupetutok

Cupetutokkidan Tacankutanin
win 6

Hepanluta Wabliiska tokca win 7

Hona Cupillo huna

Wakankiciyas wicayasi kta
wacindo ilo mihunkawangi
hunana epekte

f Joseph Wicarincamaga
Miyu

Tamakee mihankawonji

W³ Nalkaha wawaji cilagulo itokken uunikin
 Ue'izake kileto ita magunya igotahan igawakizulo
 tuka tuka wawaji kiksuzga uuncho nize igaa uunji
 he wakileto uka wakan? imaki lupi unkan
 he un nize tuka igeen watake ktaee cheeigu
 chehan ita magunya tuka tuka gin mawani ga
 masicahan ca igaa eim he uetkuzga eele eim
 Wicaxeta ksaapa he nica nakare tuka wata cheeim
 he na kiksuzga uuncho ga chehan uapituhankaka
 agayapi wikeemna tom ungapi kaza unkan
 akereakowina ungapi to ga etanhan
 Wikeemna nupa gasapa? he na tokarankin selon
 Ungapi senile he en ule unchakapi to
 ihan kta wana uicagupi naca unke cinpi to
 chehan tuka wawaji igomakipi seni eecizakekta
 Wicaxeta ota nima uicaxetazatapi akitaapi he
 Wakileto uicaxetazatapi ota unkan makke kin
 Owanaya Sica e Idon waze do. Da wanakaja
 Wicaxetazatapi wanjigi dan unkan wakke e Idon waze
 Do. Hena idukcan kta wacinge do. Da tuwe
 koka wicaxetazatapi ca wakke Inice e he na
 Idon gaje do. Koka kin waranicedapi nakos
 heon hee do. Yuwe wicarinca wawaji
 Wicaxetazapi kinhan he wato kte do. Hee
 tuka wato ee cajegad yakonpi do. He cajedato

Wacin on etanhan Ociyake do.
Pijilutagizi Oyate kin hun nom heca
Ekinicapi he igomakipi Ini do. Heon
Colanka inape hee oie oran ko waste
Do. Hehan is nakun Stapela Nina cin do
Hehan nakun Wakingancatka he nina cin do
Da Stapela. Wakingancatka he on mana heca
pi kta igecce Ini Sece do. Ecin huna
Yaku wakan awacinpi Ini kin hecapi do
ga onkiye ge Gafeta lanka Kici den
Woon tka heca on kapi tpi Ini do.
onkiye huna as Wicistagatapi etanhan
Onkicagapi tka onkiye ge heca Koonkipa
pi do. Hehan eya terga waon e Ociyake
Tokigotanhun taku wakanma Owasin at
Owakiki Ini ga Samkawakan Onarica tka
Ohni onhada ka waon ece do. ga Tokiga
tanhan taku bdu he kta Oyakiki unkan
Yaku wakan waste dake kta tka heon taku
Wakan tokun wacin waga hecinhan he
Egecin wacinige do. Da nina amagaki
ga wacin do. Hehan Oyate kin de taku
Wakan tokun wacin onganpi hecinhan Oci
ga ke kta do. Da taku wakan e Kizapi ca
Epi kin tona kipi huna kea Ojidan cedo
Ika nahanin wanjiggi Opa pi Ini do.
Heon Ohni icante Masica waon do. Owasin
Opapi unkan waste wadake kta tka
do

Hehan Wasimconavakan yaon pi kin
Jaku awakan kin he iye cin Makaan
Wacin on nigan pi do. heen ohni tatar
Wakan. Leon kigapi co on ni ksigapi cedo
Kis he iye cin makan Akan on yeksaya
pi kta wacin ye do. Da hehan tatar
Jokea epe kta do. Mr. Wopetonhanska
Den hi unkan Wakpa ipakisan kin
Hen unkan pi kta keze do. Wakpa ipakisan
can oikpa kin heci unkan pi kinhan
Watto kta I bdu kean do. ga minisole
I kigedan unkan pi kinhan Hotanke
ga Omaha aigna on kpe pi kta
I bdu kean do Da hehan wowapi kin
De ~~wasim~~ wandake cinhan token
onyakon pi kta hecinhan Mayakideke
Kta wacin do. Leon wowapi mayagu
wacinge do. ga Wicatto klapa yaon pi kin
Ohni Ciksugapi do. ga Istatunka
He tohan weksaya co canto masica waon
Do ga nakan igorahinsma Makaan^{akan} ni on
kta ohni weksaya do. Rlayetu wanji
Cannope lni maka co hunaos wicawe
ksaya cedo. Heen hunana epe kta do
mihunkarwanji nitarwin kici nape ciguze
do And I kiss you

Wingaha Opa kingan he mize do

Wigaba
1866.

Yama Keci

This your Letter

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions,
Treasurer's Office, Missionary House, 33 Pemberton Square.

Boston, January 8, 1866,

Rev. S. R. Ripps,
Beloit, Wis.
Dear Sir,

I have received your favor of
the 2^d inst. with semi annual account, which
is found to be correct, showing a balance at debit
of new account, \$1.65. I will acknowledge the
Lab. collection at Davenport prison, \$2.00, as requested,
and remain, with a new years greeting,
Very truly Yours, Lyndon S. Ward,
Treasurer.

Comm



Department of the Interior
General Land Office
January 9. 1866.

S. R. Riggs Esq
Beloit. Wisconsin

Sir.

I have received your letter of 26th ult^o. in relation to Henderson Minn^a. Location in favor of Mary Martin by her atty. in fact S. R. Riggs per S. H. B. Scrip No. 225 "Q" R & R No 910 - upon the S E 1/4 of Sec 14 T 113 N - R 35 W, and have to state that said case has been relieved from suspension, approved and filed for Patenting - and when the Patent is issued it will be sent to your address as requested in your letter of the 16th August 1864 from St. Anthony Minn^a. enclosing the Duplicate

Very Respectfully &c

J. M. Edwards
Commr.

James River D. T.
January 9th 1866

Taman Koe

Mita Koda ito wowapi ei eage do
Woki wapi ou woka jiji wi eage kin he miye nahan
sin manza ska wanjida exta nahan sin manzapi
mi do he ou ito omanzakiza wa cin ga wowapi de
ei eage do Siha mi manza ska ⁸⁰⁰ manzapi ke
ye ea mi ei ea heli keze ea him naka ha mi eun do
exta pajo to han wowapi gutan kin han he han mi en
kta keze tuka wana oman ka mupa itkize dan aye wa
ou wana tehan tuka mi eun do ⁸⁰⁰ ga manza ska
opawinge ka helo gan keze tuka Tezi tan ka manza
ska ga kin he Eha keon iwange wati ou han \$11000
manza ska ke kto pawinge ake wanj keze do he e
wi eake ea tan gan omi eizake tuka Si ha mi wi eake
mi he eun mi na eun te man xi ee he eun mi koda oman
zakiza wa eun do Tezi tan ka ozaki da ke ea Toma ke ea
manzapi he ou wowapi mi en kta galu wana mi en
kta e e lon ga xi pi kta wa cin kade hana na epe kta
owabim Garigan tan gan on ga kowapi

Nita Kage

Siha mi Anawang mami

Beloit, March 13, 1866.

My dear Husband,

Anna received a letter from Isabella written at "Paddy's Run", after her return from visiting Miss Peabody at Oxford. Perhaps we will send it if Henry has a half freighted envelope tomorrow.

I took dinner at Mr. Merrill's on Saturday last. It was quite an old ladies party. I went as a kind of experiment - thinking a little stimulant might be a benefit, & I do really feel a little more life in me this week than last. I have written to Isabella today & am tired - so I must rest. Good bye again - dearest.

Your loving wife. - Mary.

Spencer
Little

Makpiga wihoge

January 13 1866



Rice Creek
Tama Koei

Motukoda
naka ha woua
miye eaga ein
wana iwa eudo
Maza skamna
yan pi imajano
ga tu ka maza
ska mnayan pi kiri
ke wana sutaya ehn
a ka pi do wita ya elm
a ka pi ni do tukarwi
wica rta iyurpa wi
ye ya yu ha en pi do ein
niye tatr ya ku wapi
yu ju ju iji ei ea ni do
he on maza skaiyurpa
wiye ya yu ha pi do
he han tukarwan ji ei
ei ye kte do mi to xtra tua

xtra on kin kriyuxtra
pi kta ci han miniso
ta wa kpa ohna kdiou
ya pi on kranx awaoul
da ka pi kta tu kado
ito kwar waxi conwaka
n gawica nta kra pa
pi kin minici yayepi
kin token kedwahda
ka pi kin omaya ki da
ka on kranx waxte wa
da kie kta tu kado wica
ntu minisota akanya
kran pi ni na wa einu
ni yan pi wica kra kta
ga kran pi he on
on kri x ein wica teta
ded on kran pi do igu
r pa maza kra nna
yan pi on pa pi na kux
he ei ya ohini no geye
ye on kran pi do wowa
pi de nita kro da ce wa

Kiya ga ci ea ge do
wowa ea kre ei ei ya
tan he ei ea ge do nita
kro da he nana epekta
do nape ei yu ze do
yours truly
John
Maepiyawaken

9972

Crow Creek Agency, T. T.
Jan'y 15. 1866.

Rev S. R. Riggs

My Dear Brother,

I was very much gratified to receive so long a letter from you by last mail, - and I shall not be able to return the measure this time as it is late & the mail starts in the morning. I am very glad you are staying with the prisoners this winter. I hope that they may be better fitted to return to their families & that they may return in the Spring, but especially that their consciences may be enlightened & their souls fitted for its release from the body.

Those already returned here have not all turned out well - though our best men here are most of them from among those. The old men will sigh for old idolatries. Tateibomdu meets with the conjurers. Tunkanahnamani has

taken at last both his old wives —
and old Iyojanian thinks he's too
old to come to meeting much more.
Big Eagle says he is not indebted to God
for his release and so we need not expect
his assistance. Nevertheless ^{Christian} religion
is more popular here than it has ever
been, and I think more vital power
too. Though last Sabbath was an un-
pleasant day the house was so crowded
that some could even get a place to sit
down on the floor & had to go away.

The week of prayer we observed. The
Indian men who had become rather staid
in their speeches awoke to new life & in-
terest & different classes met together
& determined to fulfil better their
duties.

There are so many large boys
& girls in the school that may never
again have as good an opportunity of
learning that I think it the best
I can do to assist Mr Pond with
the teaching so I am now in the
School about 3 hours in the

morning & 2 in the afternoon.
This with my Church duties &
preparations for the different ser-
vices takes my time so that I am
not likely to accomplish as much
as I would like in the way of
scripture study, & Dakota book
making.

Still I am doing something
both about an Arithmetic & a
Dakota & English book.

I would like to know if
there are any copies of the English &
Dakota Vocabulary (that were struck off
separately) at New York or any where
else that you know of that could be
got. & & also if that part was
stereotyped.

I expect to go to Presbytery
in the spring & then to Gen Assembly
should my nomination be confirmed.

Please remember to your family — all
of whom I often think of with the kindest
wishes,
Your Fellow Servant
John P. Williamson

P.S. Thida is not out of my
mind about a Society meeting
out here sometime or other, but
I don't know what to think is best
yet

P. S.

I intended to have suggested that you remind the prisoners that their agreement to give up polygamy must extend to word as well as deed. Some who have wives here that they promised to keep have been promised for favors shown to their fellows some sister or daughter here, & have written them "wicin" letters.

Some others who promised to put away one wife have written letters to that ~~wife~~ woman trying to get her to wait for them.

Some of these cases are sources of sorrow to their friends here who had hoped that they were stronger in the faith. Others doubtless are reciprocated.

Péjutaska who had two sisters for wives & promised to put away the younger, has for some time been writing to both. They are both members of the church & I think good women. The younger has repeatedly told him

that she did not consider him
her husband & hoped he
would not so address her
any more.

A few days since she showed
me a letter which she had just
got from him that was truly
outrageous. He said he was
"winaca yids", & he would be
home by & by, & no matter who
she married he would have
her then, & if he could'nt, as
good as said she would die.

I told her not to pay any
attention to it but she feels
dreadfully about it.

I only mention these things
to guide you in the case
of your flock.

The woman was very anxious
I should write to Piyutaska
which I think perhaps I shall
do very truly
J. P. Williamson

Saint Anthony

Jan 19th 1866

Rev. S. R. Riggs

Please find
enclosed a letter from Mr
Bennett, I received your
letter from Danversport.
It was all correct; I have
always dated the year from
the 1st of Oct; as regards the
children, and should prefer if
made no difference that it should
be record from that date
then in case we kept them
or did not ~~not~~ it would be so
that we could return them to
their homes better in the fall
and would not be an an-
expense. It is great haste
I close by send love to all
your family
Truly Mary Kendall

Indian

Department of the Interior.
Washington D. C. Jan. 19th 1866.

Sir:

Your communication of the 10th inst, in relation to the Indian prisoners at Davenport Iowa, has been received; and in reply I have to state, that the subject of the release of these prisoners, was turned over by the President to the Secretary of War, some time since.

Your communication has been referred to the Secretary of War, for his information.

I am sir,

Very respectfully,
Your obt. servt.

Gas. Harlan
Secretary.

Rev. S. R. Riggs,
Davenport,
Iowa.

Department of the Interior
General Land Office
January 20. 1866

S. R. Riggs Esq
Beloit. Wisconsin.

Sir,

Referring to my letter of the 9th instant, I have now to state that Mary Martin's Scrip location therein described has upon review been suspended for defect ^{as to} your Power as Martin's Attorney to make said location. It appears that John B Renville executed said Power of Attorney as the alleged Natural Guardian of Martin. It is held by the Department that a Natural Guardian cannot execute such power of Attorney for his ward without being judicially constituted to act which does not appear to have been done in this case as far as the evidence before us shows. The case has therefore been suspended

and the Register and Receiver at St.
Peter Mine have been instructed that
"If it can be made to appear now + that
"Kenville was in fact the legally appointed
"Guardian of Martin, the Power made by
"the former will be good in law, and
"the location made under said Power, will
"be approved. If however, this cannot be
"shown, but if it shall be made to ap-
"pear that Martin has arrived at the
"proper age - that the location was firm-
"ly made for her advantage", and that
"she now accepts and approves the same,
"the location will stand and a patent
"will issue in her name for the land"
"The proof of Martin's acceptance will
"be met by her own declaration under
"oath before a properly constituted authori-
"ty with the seal attached"

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt. Servant

McDunn
Commissioner

Comm
Department of the Interior
General Land Office
January 20. 1866

S. R. Riggs Esq
Beloit. Wisconsin.

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Peter Mine have been instructed that
"If it can be made to appear now + that
"Kenville was in fact the legally appointed
"Guardian of Martin, the Power made by
"the former will be good in law and
"the location made under said Power will
"be approved. If however, this cannot be
"shown, but if it shall be made to ap-
"pear that Martin has arrived at the
"proper age - that the location was firm-
"ly made for her advantage", and that
"she now accepts and approves the same,
"the location will stand and a patent
"will issue in her name for the land"
"The proof of Martin's acceptance will
"be met by her own declaration under
"oath before a properly constituted authori-
"ty with the seal attached"

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
McDunnis
Commissioner

Robert Riggs?

1866

from Grandfather to
"Robbie"

Read this to Maida -

R R
in where.

L. R. Riggs 1866

to "Robbie" 1866

Daomput, Iowa.
January 23. 1866

My Dear Boy Robbie,

When I sit here alone
in the evening with nobody to talk with,
I often get to thinking of my children as
they are scattered and to be scattered still more.
Alfred has a little family of his own and is
doing battle with life. Isabella is going
away to the country where the tea grows and
we may never see her again. Martha and
Robbie are away up at Menkato working
and playing I suppose. Thomas and Henry are
I hope studying their books or cutting wood
up at our Detroit home. Anna Jane is getting
suffer for them. Little Lizzie is perhaps making
pictures.

Well when I commenced to think about them
all this evening I concluded I would light a
lamp and write to Robbie.

I will tell you a little bit of a story.
A long time ago, before Martha was born,

I stopped at Fort Snelling and took dinner
with an officer there whose name was Captain
Eastman. And now after about twenty five
years his grand son writes a letter to him,
which he wishes me the other day to translate
into English. It is a very nice letter, and
so I will send you a part of it.

"Grandfather,

I never saw you, but I write you
this letter. My name is George, and they tell
me that you are my grandfather. This I wish
to acknowledge by sending you this letter. They
tell me that you are a great man. But my
mother was your daughter, and I am her child.
She is dead many years ago - and my brother
and myself are here suffering in this prison with
the Indians. This I wish to tell you of grand-
father. We are in want of clothes and other things,
and for that reason I write to you. Can you
not send us a little money, grandfather?

Grandfather that is all I have to say.
My brother and I shake hands with you, grandfather.

My mother's name was Nancy. My Indian
name is Hishhendata - Red-owl. My brother's
name is Hapidan. He is thirteen years old and
I am fifteen. My father is here also."

Now don't you think that is a nice letter
for an Indian boy to write to his grandfather?
Some years ago his grandfather lived in Wash-
ington City where the President lives. I sent
the letter there.

I hope my boy Nabbie will soon be able
to write good letters. But I wish more than
any thing else that you will strive to do right
and love Jesus Christ.

This is a long letter for you to read, but
if you can't read it all Maether can easily
help you some evening.

Good bye. God bless my boy Nabbie.

Yours father aff.

P. N. Briggs.

J. P. Williams

Stunt Peter Allen Feb 11th 1846

Dear Brother Ryys

Your favor of 19th 11th
with the ^{1st} installment of your
trans. of Psalms has come safe
to hand, and I will endeavor
to do with the Manuscript as
you request.

Mr J. B. Russell passed here
early in ~~June~~ on his way
to visit him preach to the
Savits expecting as I under-
stand to return early in June.
As we have never seen him
soon after I was feeling some
uneasy about him when his
brother-in-law Russel Butler came
here between Christmas & New
year and informed us that J. B.
R. still at his house near

Braver Creek the Sabbath
after he left here and that in
consequence of the stage horses
giving out, he has brought the
passengers from Braver Creek
to put Ridgely among them
the father of Fort Hadsorath who
told him he saw Runcille the
preacher at the Fort before he
left which was after the first
hard storm. We have no news
from him since. But in the second
week of Jan, Sister received a letter
from his wife who was very an-
xious about him; hope he has
returned home by way of Fort
Abraham as the route by
Fort Ridgely has been discon-
tinued. I sent his wife a draft
for \$50.00 on design sending an
other of like amount when I
hear from them, as pay for his

services for last year, and
an authorisation to draw for
him as you mention for this,
and purpose doing so.
I as well as the Committee, are
not sure that keeping child
clothes in the families you mean
is the best way of using funds,
and while I may continue asking
for them now in these families
I do not purpose asking for an
appropriation for any num-
ber of these families un-
less you for on myself has
personal knowledge of the
person and think he or she
will probably be employed
as a teacher or preacher.

I approve of your manage-
ment of the finances so far
as I understand it, and hope
the Lord will give you wisdom

upon a prompt answer if
there is not a prospect of their
being returned to their relations
early in the Spring I will co-
radially do what I can to in-
vite and encourage you to go to
Washington to introduce for them
though if I was going myself
I wish I were not arriving there
till about the time Congress
adjourns. I suppose no which
man desires their speedy return
more than I do.

It argues well for their piety
that not with standing the chills
and the removals upon report
as many in good standing
as I report either last Spring
or the Spring before.

Mr. C. Hall formerly of Andover
and now at Lubec has been
preaching for us for about

upon a prompt answer if
there is not a prospect of their
being returned to their relations
early in the Spring I will co-
radially do what I can to win
and encourage you to go to
Worthington to introduce for them
though if I was going myself
I wish I were not arriving there
till about the time Congress
adjourns. I suppose no which
man desires their speedy return
more than I do.

It argues well for their piety
that not with standing the chills
and the removals upon report
as many in good standing
as I report either last Spring
or the Spring before.

Mr. C. Hall formerly of Andover
and now at Lubec has been
preaching for us for about

six weeks and the church
members who have heard
him like him and wish to keep
him thought owing to the cold
snow and wet weather his audien-
ces have been small.

Ellis's eyes were not so well
when Wm. J. wrote the last letter
we have received but he was
still helpful.

Ellis when I last wrote to you
was very ill, but are now as
well as they have usually been
for some years past and our
family have better health
this winter than for several
years past. Mr. Higgins's fam-
ily have poor health as usual.

Mr. Rutledge has been laboring
for some time with Dr. Goodale
at Belle Plaine and reports a
very interesting result in that
neighborhood.

I cannot progress so fast
as you do in translating but
am more than half through
the 32 Chap of Exodus, I
often feel thankful that
you incline you & Mr. R. to
make the Lakota Dictionary
as I have frequent occasion to
consult it, I set a much higher
value on Mr. R.'s part than I did
at first, I send you herewith a
list of words with the place in
which they occur in Exodus which
I have felt at a loss how to trans-
late, many if not most of them
I suppose the prisoners can if the
meaning is properly explained
translate better than any of the
other Lakotas, such as you
think are properly rendered in
the English and Dakota Dic., you
may not inquire about, Please
examine the places in which

they are from us to which I refer,
write the Lakota you think best
opposite the return but take
your time to it.

With sympathy with you in
regard to Sabella. I rejoice that
you have a child fit and willing
to go on such an important
mission, I think you should
and hope that you & Mr. R. will
feel that that it is a great privi-
lege and honor and I hope she may
be abundantly useful. Still I
know that you and especially
her mother must feel for a year-
ling with her to go to the ends
of the ends of the earth but the
Lord will sustain you. I assure Sabella
of my love and esteem and
prayers for her success. My kin-
dest regards to all your family
yours affectionately
Thos. S. Williams

P. S. B. 140
 II


4

Rev S R Rippe

Given per Iura

Dear Sir

June of 31-July 1862

the yesterday. I have already ad =

= Answer a Communication to Department

Head Hunter. Recommening that the

Indian prisoners be released as they

are showing no good to their selves or

buy one like as they are. I have

also requested permission to issue them

Clothing, but have no answer. The only

it has been over a month ago

I did not however recommend them

being sent, yet, to Crow Creek, after

4548



their release. for their reasons
They can't live there. they can win no
truce with any certainty. but your
- however was an exception. Their tribe
, the Pawnee, are still hostile & I fear
many of their prisoners will join them
should they find themselves poor &
starving, like their relations at the
Agency are on the Yorkbats.

Besides all this, it would create
an alarm among the settlers on
the frontiers of Minnesota, Dakota
& Iowa. for they have not the same
confidence. that Indians will behave
themselves if honestly dealt with
that you, & I, perhaps have.

Your letter I have forwarded
to my Commander General Pope

With much love

Your old son

Alf. Sully

Be my friend

Mrs. Lansing
1864

Montclair, N. J.

Feb. 7 1858.

Rev Mr. Riggs;

Dear Sir:

Having failed to receive any returns from Mr. M. S. Hinman since the transmission of your deed, or any response to a second letter of inquiry sent ten days since, I have decided to apply to you for an explanation. I know as a Christian brother, you will feel an interest in the widow of an aged servant of the Lord Jesus. My lamented husband labored with great earnestness and success, more than half a century, and after the failure of his health I laid out one thousand dollars of my little means to secure for him a home and divert his mind, which latter it did aid materially, in doing.

My means are very limited and I have been obliged to borrow the money I had anticipated ^{from} for the payment of

your little piece of ground.

Mr. Samuel Hinman was a noble Christian friend, and his son wrote me, after the father's death that he would attend to the business for me and transmit the payment in five twenties at N. Y. prices, just as his father would have done.

Will you have the goodness, My dear Sir, to write me immediately, in reference to this matter, and thus relieve my anxiety of not my embarrassment.

Yours,

most respectfully,
(Mrs.) L. M. Lansing.



Bloomington Feb. 12. 1866

Mr. D. R. Riggs

Dear Brother, — I see it is a month since the date of your written during the week of prayer. I have made use of your letter & one that I rec'd about the same time from W. C. Mani in our prayer-meeting on both Prairies with apparently good effect tho' there is such a degree of odium attached to the word "Indian" that I don't choose often to speak it.

I am glad you find something to encourage & cheer you in the prison. I think we have evidence that should satisfy us that the merciful God is operating in their dark hearts & teaching them.

As many as an "Anger of God" our Saviour says, will come to him

As many as an "ordained to eternal life" will believe.

It is not to be wondered at that many individuals should indulge the thoughts & feelings of the Pharisee. It's no strange thing in a Christian church.

It is wonderful that Medicine-men should seriously & deliberately decide against Wapigapi & the Taker-Wakan of their fathers & in favor of Jesus & his doctrine & Christian life.

I don't feel as if I had been very faithful to Indians or to others, though I have spoken to many, a great many words, in relation to religion, & I trust, in goodly simplicity & sincerity. It has seemed to me generally that I have spoken into the air. It made me feel glad if those words which I have spoken have been retained by Ind's with good results.

I tried to hold evening meetings at the church during the "week of Prayer" but Providence blocked up the roads & filled the air with clouds & snow so as to render it impossible. Lately we have held two evening meetings a week at the church. There appears to be a good state of feeling in the church. The tone of piety is evidently improved. Christians appear & talk & pray as if they had lately been "wound up" as we say of the clock, or oiled as machinery. A number of young persons have expressed a determination to "serve God". One mother stood up with her infant in her arms & sobbing said that she was determined to be a Christian. There are thousands but God only knows how many of them will within a fall while

they are yet blossoms.

There seems to be a general seriousness - evidence that Jesus of Nazareth is passing - there was manifest in the countenances of many, anxiety - a struggle - yesterday as I tried to persuade them to call to him for help now as the blind men of Jerico did.

We were much interested by what you said in relation to Isabelle - It was what we anticipated. I am glad very glad, that so many of the children of the Dakota Missions are evincing a disposition to devote their lives to direct & active service for Jesus. May God bless Isabelle & make her a good & useful woman
Yours &c
G. W. Pond

Department of the Interior.

Washington D. C. *Feb. 13th* 1866.

Sir:

A copy of your letter in reference to the Sioux Indian prisoners at Davenport Iowa, dated the 31st ult. addressed to General Sully, has been forwarded to this Department by General Pope.

In reply I have to inform you, that an order has been made by the Secretary of War, by which these Indian prisoners are to be turned over to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs on the first of April next. The Commissioner has adopted means to secure if possible, a new home for them, and their women and children now at Crow Creek, which place has been deemed unsuitable for their residence.

I am sir,

very respectfully,

Your obt. servt.

Geo. Harlan
Secretary.

Rev. S. R. Riggs,
Davenport Iowa.

Miss J. Drake

Feb. 1866.

East Walnut Hill Feb 14th

1866

My Dear Mrs Riggs

I wrote Isabella a few days ago, not having an opportunity of sending to the office yet I must not let the privilege pass without talking with you, for a little while, for I am alone. Something very unusual for me.

I hoped to have the satisfaction of talking face to face, but must relinquish that pleasure at present, as my Aunt will remain in New York until April.

Mr & Mrs Hosbrouck Ella & Johanne left us to day for Philadelphia, from there to Schenectady N.Y. perhaps to remain.

Mr Hasbrouck mother died in October. It was her wish that he should come & occupy her house. It is also the desire of his brother & sister as they cannot have the family link broken at S. The climate is the great objection. Mr H. has been in the South for the last four years & is very sensitive to cold. We have had very cold weather ever since his return two weeks ago. He came direct from ^{Victoria} Texas where he has been for the past six months in charge of Post Hospital

We do not feel at all reconciled to their going East to live. Mother is feeling very badly about it. She does not give her daughters up, as she did several years ago. Had that her

faith is any the less, we now realize that our mother is indeed growing old in this life. She has always been so active it is hard for her to think that she cannot do still as she used to.

You will rejoice with me when I tell you that my husband is coming, and decidedly on the Lord's side. Six weeks last night since he first prayed aloud, Oh what moments they were to me. I cannot describe them. To think I should realize what I had been hoping & praying for, for fifteen long years. I was not prepared for it for I had set my own time so often & had been disappointed not that I distrusted God's goodness for a moment. I had other cause for

joy, a few weeks before, in the
conversion of Alice. She has
indeed been "born again" & is
a real comfort to us now, so
different that it is delightful
to have the care of her. I have
had such deep trials with her
much of the time since I saw
you until early in the fall.
She united with the church the
first Sabbath in the new year.

Mrs Elliot has been here much
of the time since she came on
& only last week succeeded in
securing a situation. She has tried
one surely in various ways.

I know you are going through
a deep trial in giving Elizabeth up
& human sympathy is nothing. I hope
your health is so much improved
that you will be better able ^{to endure} them
you were when I saw you ~~at~~ at
any time when I have heard from
you. Remember me kindly to Mr. Briggs &
the children. Ever affectionately yours
Lucy J. Drake

Miss. House Boston
Feb. 16. 1866

Rev. S. R. Riggs
Beloit, Wis.

Dear Brother

I have before me
your letters of Dec. 16. Jan. 16. (to Dr Anderson) & Jan.
4. I was much interested in the first, as showing
how the Christian Dakotas regarded some of their
old customs, how they reasoned on moral
questions. The letter to Dr. A. will furnish mat-
ter for the Herald. Yours of Jan. 4. asking for aid
in Isabella's outfit, was attended to at once.

There are many hopeful signs in the
state of our chks. We hear of interesting
visits, we think that the no. will increase.
We at the Miss. House are looking for a
blessing upon our Miss. Stations, though we
have no marked encouragement. We suppose,
however, that the chks abroad will sympathize with
the chks at home; if the "abundance of grace"
shall come, it will refresh the thirsty, far
& near. kindest regards to Mrs. H. & your children

Very fraternally
S. B. Thayer

Mrs Huggins

Abingdon Feb 20, 1866

Rev. S. R. Riggs

I was much
pleased to receive a few
lines from you in
Isabella's letter. I often think
of you and your family
and how much you have
done for and where I might
have been if it were not
for your kind efforts
and prayers to God for
my rescue from the Indians.
I have written a note for
Isabella and will enclose it
in this and you will please
send it to her, if she has

gone before this reaches you
it contains a photograph
of my little ones which
you can take out and
see if you wish

The children and myself
have been blessed with
very good health this
winter

Fathers health has been
very poor all winter it
is some better now

You spoke of spending
most of your time with
the prisoners at Devenport
I feel anxious to do something
for the advancement of Gods
work among the Indians
I am not able to do much
now but will send you

two dollas to spend for
thier good as you think
best.

Please accept my love and
kind regards for your self
and family

Yours very truly
J. S. Huggins

Wigawapi Feb 21st 1866

Mr. S. R. Riggs
Mitakoda eka Kaka atewonapi
yaga e wannulake heen
ate taku eza kiza cin heen
wannulaka onkan wanj
igotam waste watalake ake
Wakantanka ou kin pizarin
on wahokon onzakizapi Kta
azakite Kta kike cin he
wakezebo hehan mis'ito
token waon kin he nuziton
Kta wa cinzebo eza cheiza
wahuli kin he taku on
tankan huli'ce mazazapi
kin he chimizan tohamzan
niwaon kin he ecaon
Kta wa cin tuka mahandin
ozate tokica wanj en
emazahnakapi sin'ituka
wanna wazajun ozate
tuna kin he mitakoela

John P. Williamson Kic'
wai' tuka wicaclapi' sin'
hicec' ake ekta waki' zeelo
tuka ake tuktem zemazapi'
Kinhan mule Ktechimis
epca waanzelo heham ake
wetu Kinhan ake conki' caker
en wojupi Ktezeelo heham
nakaha isanzati' Tipi Kin
en ozate tokica wicota ahitipi
onkan hezapi Kizapi' wasicon
eluna wiconkasotapi' ga
aguzapi' hena zuba
mazizata onkilapi' Ktece
ezapi' Kizapi' hiecen conkaske
Kin natukapi' zeelo heham
desza nina wasibezelo
ga ihamktanwan nina
wicaaki' ranzeelo turinge
zeelo isanzati' e Kitanma
tanzan zulkapi' zeelo
huna ne epe Ktezeelo
Ktepebi' zeelo

mitakuzi

Robert Hopkins
hemizeelo

[Bound with 1866 papers]

Seminary Feb. 28.

Mr. Biggs

Dear Friend

Mary Martin
handed me your note of the 26th
Inst. It was with difficulty
I got her to copy your letter, as
she is not very ready with her
pen, and it came about wear-
isation times. She has copied
it no less than half a dozen
times. I send the most readable
copy.

I am sure no one could
be more disappointed than I
am, that I was not at Isabella's
wedding. I have only heard of it
indirectly, (through Miss Blaisdell)
until receiving your note.

Miss Gill is not expected
for some four or five weeks yet.

Summering affairs look rather
dark just now, as the scholars
are on the decrease. They have
got an idea that if they are the
least sick they must go home.

They want Miss Loomis will
here, to put a stop to it.

Love to all

Very Sincerely

Julia Loomis

Julia Loomis

Mrs. Kniville
1866

St. Anthony Min.
Feb. 28. /66

Rev. J. R. Niggs

Mihonkwanji

Pan Kaku waziga lara han
wahdi ga he eiza ta han sdon
wage ein heon wowapi eiza
ge Kta iye eee

Reifa han wiwanji wa on ga han
Wohdige e con Koni pi ga he han
uta higin etta naton wiwanji
wa on ga he eiza Koni Wohdige
e con Koni pi ga Pejikutage
en wa hdi ge han naton Wohdige
e con Koni pi utukonji han eee
dara wi eota tifi tifi wi Pee-
ma xalope he eon tifi ta ha han
e stige dara wa on Kte e free ea-
heon an petu wa han inu pake
en Wohdige e con Koni pi on han
iguhakam te han ^{won} en x wota ga
on teri ke he on uiza man vi
ca ga he han gan wa hoo Kon wi

mansate, wa hedi mi ekan -
Pejirku tawila eta # 110, man-gaska
upawinge mi ta win go to ka
i+ hama waniyetu kin de on wo
tafi naka in hema ka
he can de kan taku e e a ma kta wa-
cin kin o wasin o wa kibi'ami
kan etan kan Mary Martin man
Kullu wawapi ^{ta wa} ~~ta~~ wakins takenna
ya kan kin kan o man ya kida ka cin
kan pida man yage kete
ga Dakota skta taku e e on fi kta wa
ji nayarau ga wotau in kan jinsa
ya kan kin sduge man yage e e kepea

Yours Truly,

J. D. Venable

Amawung mi wawapi nica ga
was den owaknatel

Dear Husband

I send Mr. R. S. Johns &
Mary's letter - Simon's I will keep
till another time. Yours ever, Mary.

Washington D C
March 6. 1866

Rev S R Riggs

Dear Sir on or as soon
as may be after the first of April
mgt the Society all of them are
to be removed from prison taken
up the Missouri & sent to the best
place that can be found for them

I could have sent
you this information a fortnight
since but hoped to get some spe-
cial favors for them & do yet

Commissioner Dole has
become rich — on his little salary

Yours truly

Geo E. H. Day

Mr. Penville

Saint-Anthony
March 7th 1866

Red Mr. Riggs.

Dear Friend.

Mr Penville is sick so I will
reply to your note. Mary was
18 last August but what day I
have never been able to learn.
We do not think best to reply
to Mr Swift's letter.

Mr Penville says
Enas folks are very anxious to
know about the claims and what
is to be done with it.
and while speaking on this subject
I will take the liberty to ask if
nothing can, or rather if something
cannot be done to secure
Spotted Hawk's (Susans ^{or} Leathers)
Claims. by waiting to Washington or
doing something I'm sure I don't

know what such frauds are
enough to make any untested
Indian lose confidence in
the white man.

Mr Renville's lungs trouble him
very much many more such
attacks will destroy them altogether.

It must be sad for you
all to part with Belle. but you are
only furnishing another one to labour
in Christ's Kingdom on earth and it
won't be long before China and
all the distant lands will be as
though they had never been and
all the families of the earth that
are redeemed shall meet in Heaven
not one more to part and it
seems to me that those who
have given their lives for the service
of their Master, ^{among the poor,} will be received
with joy unspeakable. but I am
only blundering as I always do
when I go to speak of these

glorious themes to those who
understand ^{them} so much better
than I do. But as one star
differs from another star in
glory, so I expect to see if ever
I reach Heaven to see among
the bright stars of Heaven
many a Missionary, (others of
course) but one thinks I shall
recognize them first
then the redeemed they were
the humble instruments of
pointing to the Saviour.

I regret I did not
reply to Belle. and thank her
for her kindness in ^{offering to} sending
me her photograph but it is too
late now I wish I had it I
should prize it highly.

My love to all the friends -
if Mr Smith made Mr Renville
walk up into the pulpit with him
and set through all the service

don't you suppose some
of the people fainted. what is
he coming of Minnesota.

I have taught
all winter but shall stop soon
I almost hear you say I had
better stop if I send such letters
as this to Clerical Friends but I
still believe you are of a forgiving
spirit and and I do so many
things bad, it is of no use of apologizing
I really intend this letter more for
Mrs Riggs than you, and so I must
tell a little more Sophia is staying
at Mendota a while for a visit.
Mr Van Emans people are well
I always love to hear from
Beloit my early home and more
than ever now

Truly Yours
M. A. Renville

Miss. House Boston
March 9. 1866

Rev. S. R. Riggs

Haverport. Dear Bro.

In my last, I omitted
to acknowledge your letter of Jan. 31, which
I had perused with care & pleasure. J. B.
Kenzie has made a report of his excursion.
He had a "hard time", most unquestionably.
He reported his speech at Y. S. C. The Comtee
referred the matter to Dr. W. to allow what
is proper. I told Dr. W. to do the same thing
hereafter. It is better that the missionaries
adjust such matters; such is our rule with
native helpers, preachers, &c.

Yours of March 9, I have just
received. The note "ancient" Isabella, I think,
will be printed some day, perhaps after she
has sailed. I am glad to hear of the change
of plan in regard to the La Katag. The
Lord grant them better days, in things
temporal & things spiritual!

Very fraternally
S. B. Truett

Rev. Mr. Adams
Mail
1866

Saint Paul, Minn.

March 9th 1866

Rev. L. R. Riggs,

Dear Bro.

Yours of Feb. 12th

th. came during my absence in
the Southern part of the State and was
mailed to me at St. Paul but
did not reach me until today
when it came on here to St. Paul
too late for the interesting event
of Isabella's marriage. I am
sorry for this delay and conse-
quent disappointment to you
as it must have been indeed.
But I understand that the wedding
came off at about the time mention-
ed. a notice of which is published in
the Herald.

Enclosed herewith please find
a Certificate as per request. It

may not be undue form but -
I am at a loss to know what
from you require -

My own opinion is that you
ought to file a copy of the original
Certificate of your license and
Ordination if practicable although
something of this kind enclosed
may answer as a matter of
conformity to the statute of the State.
If anything more or different is
necessary from me as stated Clerk
of Presbytery have the goodness to
let me know. I will attend to it
with pleasure.

I am working on in the Bible
Agency with encouraging results -
but there are not quite up to the
great period we celebrate the Jubilee
Year. Nor indeed scarcely worthy
up the great & blessed work to be done
by the numerous Bible Societies in
giving the world, God's truth & grace.

We are contemplating a return this
Spring to our old home at St. Peter.
All well as usual with us.

We were glad to hear of the comfort-
able state of Mrs. Riggs health - hope
she may quite regain her health.

We were surprised to hear of Martha
& Robb's return home, midwinter.
They must have gone Cross-Cats.
or passed us by.

Mrs Adams joins with me in
giving kindest regards to
yourself and family.

Yours fraternally
M. N. Adams.

Washington Mich 13:66

Rev S. R. Riggs

Dear Sir:

I have delayed answering your letter, with the hope of being able to learn something of the whereabouts of Mr Swatzer, but I have not heard from any one who knows where he is. I am inclined to think he is somewhere in this city, and may yet find him. If I do so will write you. If you will address Mr Postmaster

at Fort Wayne Indiana, you may be able to learn something of him. I do not know how Ravilland can obtain his scrip unless he can find S. or at least give the number so that it can be traced.

Truly Yours

J. M. Window

To act un-advisedly in the matter.

Unless there should be a change of programme I shall leave here early in May. Early the morning papers of today which contain a telegraphic despatch from Omaha, that my Col. Commr. Supt. Taylor has been holding tel. communication with the Indians at Fort Saramie, who were present with their Agents and the Commr. Officer, and that the 1 June has been designated as the time for us to meet them,

I need not state in conclusion, that I consider it to be my special duty to restore friendly relations with the Indians, so far as possible, and to help them as much as I can consistently with my duty to the Govt. I fear that "White Dodge" & "Sleepy Eyes" with their bands, & others associated with them, are still bent upon mischief. Such is the tenor of the last advices, should any of the prisoners at W. join them in case they should be released? God speed you in your good work.

Yours sincerely H. H. Sibley
Br. Major Genl.

Confidential

Gen. Sibley

St. Paul, March 14th, 1866

S. R. Riggs
Beloit, Wisconsin,

My dear Sir,

Your favor

the met. reached me this evening, and I hasten to reply to it.

The Commission is to be divided, three members including myself, to proceed to Fort Saramie, to treat with two bands of the most Western Sioux, (The Ogallallas and Upper Bomles,) with the Cheyennes & Arapahoes, all of which savages have been the terror and pest of overland travellers for the past few years.

Gen Curtis with the remaining members of the Commission, will go up the Missouri to complete the work of the last season, and to negotiate with other tribes of bands. The programme when I left Washington was understood to be, that our branch would meet the Indians in Council

The traders as well as the Indians on the Upper Missouri are all very desirous I should go up among them, but it has been otherwise decided after full consultation. It is the opinion of the Commission that the overland route should be made safe for travellers.

between 20th May and 1st June at Saranac,
and the others meet at Fort Sully on 20th May
at Fort Rice 1 June, Fort Berthold 10th June
and Fort Union if I recollect right about 1st
to 8th July. Of course it may be requisite
to modify or change these arrangements to
accommodate circumstances.

If you desire to go with us, I will ask
authority to employ you as interpreter, which
I have no doubt will be granted. Or in case
you prefer to accompany the other Commission,
I will write to that effect. I need not state
that I should be much gratified to have you
with us.

I worked hard for the Crow Creek misérables
while in Washington, as well as for the
Surrendered Sissetons at Bradworth, and I
have addressed the Comm^r. Ind. Affairs on
their behalf since I returned here. The
plan is to remove the former to the mouth of
the Niobrara (or Sweet Water or Running Water)
where the bottom land is comparatively good,
and where the Indians will be more out of

the way of other Indians, as well as of the whites.
I am now awaiting directions to send to the
Sisseton Chiefs & Head Men, a message for
them to meet the Mission Commission at
Fort Sully or Fort Rice, with a view to
restore their treaty relations with the Govt.
I have not ceased to interest myself in behalf
of the poor creatures who have suffered so
much, the innocent no less than the guilty,
and I propose to continue my intercessions
with "the powers that be" until they are
properly provided for. Luckily, my standing
with the Dept^s at Washington, whether deserved
or not, enables me to work with good effect.
God grant that you & I may be successful
in our endeavors.

I wish you would write me frankly, whether
or not, in your opinion, the prisoners at Davenport
can all be safely released, with a due regard
to the interests of all concerned? I am somewhat
in doubt on this point. I do not believe they
will all be set at liberty if I should interpose
any valid objections, and I do not wish

to act un-advisedly in the matter.

Unless there should be a change of programme I shall leave here early in May. I see by the morning papers of today which contain a telegraphic despatch from Omaha, that my Col. Comdr. Supt. Taylor has been holding tel. communication with the Indians at Fort Laramie, who were present with their Agents and the Comdg Officer, and that the 1 June has been designated as the time for me to meet them,

I need not state in conclusion, that I consider it to be my special duty to restore friendly relations with the Indians, so far as possible, and to help them as much as I can consistently with my duty to the Govt. I fear that "White Lodge" & "Sleepy Eyes" with their bands, & others associated with them, are still bent upon mischief. Such is the tenor of the last advices, would any of the prisoners at W. join them in case they should be released? God speed you in your good work.

Yours sincerely H. H. Sibley
Br. Major Genl.

The trades as well as the Indians on the Upper Missouri are all very designs I think go up among them; but it has been otherwise decided after full consultation. It is determined that the overland route should be made by the timber country. The western route is the same.

d S.
Be

Dr. W.

1866

Saint Peter Minn March 22

Dear Brother Riggs

On yesterday

I received a letter from Bro J B Renville and the part of your translation of Pontus 1-11 which I had done enlighting when he was here more than a month ago. He had decided taking a team of lumber to Beaver Creek before this time but when he went to the Indians in Deer he took two horses with him which he had bought a short time before & got them both for vouchers and as he cannot now get the cash for these he cannot now fit up a team to take up lumber to build his wife however writes as if she expects they will move up this spring Last year you advised me to ask the Pro Com

to allow him at the rate of \$400 a
year for the time he was actual-
ly employed in laboring among
the Indians I did so and did not know
but he had received it till he was
here in Dec. he gave his wife with
sister that she was out of money and
in need and I immediately sent him
a draft for \$50 and some time af-
ter another for a like amount when
two I suppose to be about what he
was entitled to for last year as he
was from home about two months
the first trip and starts on the last
about the first of Dec. His expen-
ses coming from Fort Wadsworth
in Feb were very heavy I think
about \$30. to Saint Peter On his
way down as he was out of money
I paid him \$17 for two months at
though I expected he would get home
several days before the close of Feb.
I thought that was about his and

that he ought to have seen the
man but not feeling authorized
to give it advised him to write
to Grant an account of his trip
and expenses which he did and
Grant has written to me that he is
much interested in the acct and
evidently feels in reference to the
matter as I did but refers the mat-
ter of his compensation back to
the mission I wish your advice
in reference to this matter as I feel
that there is more of much more
wisdom than I have. \$300. has
been allowed for his support this year
and I suppose we ought not to extend
that but at the rate you advised
last year there is no probability of
its all being made, for it seems
to me not probable that he will
spend more than half his time la-
boring among the Indians I shall
we increase the monthly allowance

or make an extra allowance for
travelling expenses or can you
suggest any other and better way
of adjusting the matter. I suppose
the Scots have given him nothing ex-
cept his fare which with them and
if the Board will support him they
probably now will give him more
than they have done yet. That
they should do more than this
seems to me a matter of very great
importance for unless we can get some
self supporting Churches among the
Lakotas within a few years the
probability is that Christianity
among them must die out and if
so in time they will become extinct
for if they will not have the
favor they must first be utterly
worn. I shall wait for some sug-
gestions from you on this subject

18th

Saint Peter Alms March

Dear Brother Riggs

We were made

glad on yesterday by the receipt of your paper of 5th inst. and the news it contains. Though I had been hoping all winter that the poor prisoners would be released this month or next it is indeed joyful news to me as well as them to be informed that the matter is definitely settled that this is the last month of their imprisonment for after they shall be turned over to the Com. of Ind. & H. they will be no longer prisoners and I trust they will soon be on the way to join their friends. The move

90 lion

of the Ellysian opens earlier
than that of the Ellysian is
the same latitude and if they
should leave Liverpool on the
1st of April there will be no
danger of their being impeded
by ice in the Ellysian.

Elly pay at the prospect of
their release is heightened by
the thought that you are, and
will be, with them till the
time of their release to give
them instruction now when
the prospect of liberty makes
their minds most susceptible
of favorable impressions.
I have no doubt G. E. Dwyer
has made considerable exertions
for their release and doubt not
he is justly entitled to compensa-
tion for the same. But the mo-
ney you speak of you will then

retain in your hands for
the present. I last summer
sent Elly Dwyer my acc against
Gov. for visit to Chippewa pay-
ment and travelling expenses a-
mounting to \$130. with power
of a Treas. to collect it. He acknow-
ledges the receipt of the acc. and
and I have no doubt he will collect
the money though he has not in-
formed me of this. I informed him
that he might have the money
when collected as a fee for his
services in behalf of the prisoners.
I expect to receive from the
friends of the prisoners the greater
part of this amount as Rowanke
wrote me about that time that
they promised to pay \$115 giving
the names and sums by each
varying from 25. to 5 dollars each.
Some of them I never expected

to pay but thought I might
safely count on 100 dollars if
they were released within one year
as yet I have not received one
cent. If they do not pay me to
the amount of \$100. I think
I shall be entitled to the sum in
your hands.

I have supposed that those
promising to pay would be
more willing to do so if their
friends think be sent directly
to them instead of by Crow Creek
and for this and other reasons
which seem to me important
have been endeavoring to have
them sent to Fort Ridgely or
Wadsworth instead of the Elkhorn.
Success in this is doubtful but
I will again write to Judge Dr. on
the subject. I have sent him
their names and thought of
writing them to you but I



I think I have sent them
to some of the prisoners perhaps
Chamvany Kaki but it is
possible I have made some
mistakes about the persons &
so I will now write to Judge
Day and request that as you
will be then you may be
authorized to select of the men
a number not exceeding 20
to be sent this way. If you wish
it I will get and give the
names as I sent them to Judge
Day. I cannot say that the
news that they are to be removed
from Crook gives me
any joy, though it may be
for the best.

I think you have done the
best which could be done in re-
ference to the class of Washington.
If more elders are needed it is best

that a larger number of those
over whom they are to watch
should have a vote in choosing
them, than are now in prison.
I thank you much for the
words you have sent me some
of them I may not use because
I like better words suggested by
Mr J. B. Kenville a few of them
I have appropriated to other uses
and will not use them in the
places referred to because I cannot
do it and keep up the distinctions
as they exist in the original
and I think ought to be preserved
in our translations. Others
of them I will adopt and some
of them I think quite important.

I got through translating
Exodus just before I returned
your letter on yesterday. In
translating it I got a much
clearer and I think more correct

idea of many passages than
I can get ^{before} or could get from
our English version. I hope
by your assistance to make the
account of the Tabernacle as in-
telligible to the Hebrew as our
version is to common English read-
ers.

I have spent some time studying
your translation of Psalms. I think
it a great improvement on the
translation of them which you
made at Lac qui Parle but suscep-
tible of still further improvement.
And as you suggest I critique for
it, I purpose sending you some
of my criticisms with this but
the Psalms critique I exhibited
to Mr Kenville when he was here
so far I have spent much more
time comparing them with the
Hebrew than it would take me
to copy them. I will make this

my principal business in the
day, now, till I get through with
the portion you have sent me.

I will then make two suggestions
1st There is apparent blank in ma-

king the moral sentiments on
lines of nearly equal length but
it seems to me the lines ought not
all to begin with capitals. I then
but only the first of each verse or
sentence.

2^d Endeavour to use more specific
and fewer general terms as far
as possible having a distinct
word in Hebrew for every one in
the book, except of this makes our
own version obscure in some places
and untrue in others.

I think I will write you again
shortly. Winter still continues
here yours affectionately

Thos. Williamson

Portsmouth March 23^d 1866

Dear Brother

When your letter, in reference to the time at which Mr Williams & Belle, would probably be in the vicinity of Cincinnati came to hand, I wrote to them at "Paddy's Run", saying that if they could not visit us here, I would meet them in Cin.^o or at Bro. Moses' at Loveland - some 8 or 10 days afterwards I rec'd a letter saying that it was quite uncertain about their visiting Portsmouth, but would try to advise me when they would be in Cincinnati &c. I heard nothing more of their movements, until last Monday when I rec'd a letter from Bro. Moses dated Saturday, - informing me that they Mr W. & Belle would be at Mr Porters in Cin.^o Tuesday and at his home Wednesday, and take the coming train from thence for the East the same day - as I did not get the letter until after the P. & O. Packet had left, I had no certain means of getting down in time, unless I went by R.R. - and I dislike that way of travelling, especially on a road so much out of repair as the road from here to Loveland - I failed to see them, therefore, - I regretted this very much, - I suppose you found it hard to part, probably forever in this world, with one so much beloved; yet if it was her duty to go, it was your duty to give her up - And then it will only be a short time, at the farthest, until those who love & serve the Lord, will meet again where there will be no more parting -

There has been some Religious interest in our Church, Commencing about the last of Feb.^y - at the Communion the 1st Sab. of March twelve

were rec^d. - 10 upon profession, since then, the meetings have been continued every evening, prayer meeting or preaching - probably 20 or more are indulging hope, or have given their hearts to Christ - a Sessional meeting will be held tomorrow afternoon to receive applications for membership, the interest is quite as deep now, as at any time heretofore, a majority are members of the Sab. School, from 10 to 17 years of age -

About 4 weeks ago Harriet & Charles paid us quite an unexpected visit, and whilst they were here, Brown dropped in on us, (you may know that he has located for the present in Nashville) - which altogether was quite an agreeable surprise - B - only remained from Saturday till Monday - Charles a few days longer - and Harriet remained about 2 weeks - and has been visiting some friends, between this and at Chillicothe and expects to visit Eliza Jane at Salem in Illinois before her return home - I avoid, as much as possible, becoming interested in our governmental complications - yet it is very unpleasant to know that unworthy men have been placed in power, and that we assisted in doing it - were it not that the Lord reigns, and can over rule the evil of men for good, & for his Glory - I should almost despair of our Country -

I observe a Bill has passed our House of Congress, making a change in the mode of intercourse with the Indian tribes, by which the Missionary Religious bodies have the appointment of One member of each Indian agency or department, would it not suit you, if such an appointment could be obtained - I do not suppose that I could have any influence but if I could, and you should desire it, I will do what I can - I suppose however that the Am. Board. will have the nomination of our member, and that the nomination will probably be confirmed if made, But you have doubtless seen the features of the bill & have therefore more information in reference to the subject than I -

My Children & their families are well as far as I know - Scattered as they are - With affectionate regards to all your family I remain
Your aff. Brother J. Riggs

H. M. Gibby
1866

Rev. S. R. Riggs
Beloit Wis.

St. Paul, March 26th 1866

My dear Sir,

I have your favor of 21st.

inst. and have written the Commr. Ind. Affairs, strongly
urging that you be employed as Interpreter to the Commr.
destined to the Upper Missouri, but stating if you were
not needed in that quarter, I would desire you to
accompany the Commr. of which I am a member, to
Fort Laramie. I will not make you blush from pure
modesty, by repeating what I have written about you.
I have desired a reply as soon as possible.

I have not endorsed all your recommendations
to release the Indian prisoners at once, but have stated
that I believed some of the more desperate & guilty should
be detained longer under military guard. I think the
indications in Br. when I was there, pointed to an early
liberation of the whole.

I hear from the Commr.

I will write you again when

The Council at Fort Laramie
will be held at Laramie about 1 June, the old Commr.
will visit the Indians at Fort Sully May 20 & Fort Rice
June 1st. I have been authorized to take measures

Secure the attendance of the Chiefs & Head men
of the Santee Sioux near Fort Wadsworth, at the
Conference at Fort Sully or Fort Rice, as I deemed best.
I have written Major Brown to give the necessary
invitations, and to extend the same to all bands who
are desirous of renewing their treaty relations with the Govt.
In so doing, I may have somewhat transcended my
authority, but I have written to the Commr. that I
deemed it of primary importance that none of the bands
of Santees should be omitted from the category of invitations.
I believe it to be good policy to display magnanimity
at the present juncture, as it will weaken the war party,
to say nothing of higher considerations which urge a
sincere attempt to put a stop to Indian hostilities.

I regret to learn that Mrs. R. has not been well.
Mrs. S. writes in kind regards to Mrs. R. & yourself.

Hastily,

Yours sincerely
A. H. Sibley

We hope for her recovery in time, but the prospect of her pursuing her studies is clouded. She says she wants to trust in Jesus & tries to do so. We of course had to separate her from Eliza. She has seen her a few times. It kind of to be with her long at a time. Thus you see the Hand of the Lord is heavy upon us. Pray that our money come out of the furnace purified.

The reunion of your family, on so interesting an occasion, must have been delightful.

I should love to hear from you often.

Ed never received the letter you wrote him. He now expects to leave home soon. He has suffered much in the army & since his return he took cold on the retreat from Franklin.

Sister Lucretia

March 1866

So. Deyfield,
March 30th 1866

My Dear Brother,

Was much gratified in the reception of a letter from you. I had decided to write to Alfred & inquire in regard to you & yours, as the letters we wrote some months since, directed to St. Anthony, were met with a response. Before my plan was carried out, a paper came to hand announcing the marriage of Isabella. An rejoicing that she is to go on a mission in behalf of the Blessed Saviour, may she be useful & happy. Would I write her if I said her address.

Am happy to learn that Mary is better. Regret that she had troubles late.

We have passed through

which brought on inflammation of the eyes. He is much better but not entirely well.

Date Nov 2. Mary was a bad night. Isabella is with us.

deep waters of affliction, since my last letter was penned to you.

Mary left last April for Washington D.C., was there at the time of the assassination of the President, soon after went to Wilmington N. C. & then to Smith with 20 miles south to care for the soldiers, with experienced C. S. ladies, to take in Light Diet Kitchen. She enjoyed her work exceedingly, returned in July. She suffered much from the bites of fleas, which combined with dysentery caused her much suffering. After her return she had a severe attack of jaundice, followed by cholera morbus, which left her in such distress, as to unfit her for returning to teach in the colored schools, as she had anticipated.

In Sept. Etta was attacked with inflammation in her eyes,

very severe, making it necessary to confine her to a dark room, which she still occupies. She has manifested so patient & Christ like a spirit, that it has been a pleasure to care for her. Her eyes were poulticed with soothing applications for five months, thus depriving entirely of school privileges.

Mary took charge of Etta, changing her poultices once in three or four hours, & slept with her, confining herself, we now feel too entirely.

About five weeks since. It was attacked with dysentery in her eyes, which together with an affection of the nerves &c., made her very ill. It required two to care for her for days. We were fortunate in obtaining a superior nurse & assistant, also a friend to stay with Etta. M. is much better, but her mind is very weak & often wandering.

We are grateful to me for your letters.

We hope for her recovery in time, but the prospect of her pursuing her studies is clouded. She says she wants to trust in Jesus & tries to do so. We of course had to separate her from Otto. She has seen her a few times. It kind C. to be with her long at a time. Thus you see the Hand of the Lord is heavy upon us. Pray that we may come out of the furnace purified

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