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DAKOTA CONFLICT OF 1862 MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTIONS
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY. ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

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agent at Red Wood and Yellow Medicine. He appointed Geo Gleason as his clerk a very important position at that time. It was while acting in that position that Gleason was killed by Chaska Don, at the time of the outbreak May Kalbrath and Dr Wakefield were away from home, their home being at Yellow Medicine. Gleason stood by his post while there was any hope of maintaining it when all of his friends had left but Geo Spencer they both hitched up a team and took the wife and family of the late Dr Wakefield and started down in the direction of New Ulm, several miles above the Red Wood River Chaska Don and one or two other Indians who saw them cornering sorted themselves in the grass by the road side, as Gleason drove up, Chaska Don fired, and with his running aim, Gleason fell dead out of the wagon, Chaska Don took the team and the Lady with him, and

kept them until released by General Sibley at "Camp Release", after the battle of North Lake. Immediately after the Ransom of the prisoners in the hands of the Indians, General Sibley took several hundred Indians and their family as prisoners, he at once sent the Squaws and children to Fort Snelling, and brought the Indians to Mankato. Chaska Don was among the thirty eight executed here on December 26th 1862.

after supper on the evening of the execution a few well known men of that day accompanied by Dr La Postolier with a team and dog wanted to make sure that all who were executed were ^{Indians} good took up some of them and among those resurrected was Chaska Don, He all felt keenly the injury he had done in murdering our old friend Gleason in cold blood.

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INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE

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I cut off the Rope that bound his hands and feet, and cut off one Prade of his hair with the intention of sending them to some relatives should I hear of their whereabouts. I never heard of his friends, and so I had the hair made into a Watch chain by a Lady friend in St Paul, I wore it until it was as you see about worn out, and now I send it to you, thinking that some day it might be of interest with the other mementoes of those terrible times and that great hanging event. There is much that might be said about that resurrection and the strange scenes of that day that now seem mysterious like. But those of us who were present and familiar with the horrible butcheries of that massacre were hardened to things that we would scarcely believe now. I will remember the case of Jo LeBlond and the Indian who was

shot on the top of the Hay stack back of Fullers store at New Ulm, and the way they were served by our boys. We would not permit such conduct now, and we could not do so then, only we were stilled to it, by witnessing the indiscriminate massacre of men women and children and horses.

Hoping you will send this old chain worthy of a place in the Historical Society I remain yours very truly

John F. Meagher

MS. from Hon. J. F. Meagher-

Mankato Minnesota Dec 26 1887

J. Fletcher Williams Esq

Sec of the Minn His Society

St Paul

Dear Sir

I Enclose you herewith a Relic of the time of the Sioux Execution, Twenty five years ago today. Many of your Citizens of St Paul and all of the old Settlers of the Minnesota Valley, will remember the Genial face and hearty laugh of Geo Gleason, who was a clerk with Comodore Davidson on the Steamer "Frank Steel" or "Favorite" in 1859 and 60. I mention Gleason in connection with this relic as it was taken with a view of sending it to Gleasons friends or Parents if living, that they might know that the death of George Gleason was avenged by the Strong arm of the law administered by the Government.

Soon after the Inauguration of Mr Lincoln, Major Galbrath of Scott County was appointed Sioux Agent at Red Wood and Yellow Medicine. He appointed Geo Gleason as his clerk a very important position at that time. It was while acting in that position that Gleason was killed by Chaska Don, at the time of the outbreak Maj Galbrath and Dr Wakefield were away from home, their home being at Yellow Medicine. Gleason stood by his post while there was any hope of maintaining it when all of his friends had left but Geo Spencer they both hitched up a team and took the wife and family of the late Dr Wakefield and started down in the direction of New Ulm. Several miles above the Red Wood River Chaska Don and one or two

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(signed) John F Meagher