

October 15, 1862

Aunt Clara

528
Yesterday I went up
into the Indian country for
aging and found great a
number of curiosities. I
send you down a soup
dish, as I know we are
short of such articles. I am
more surprised than ever
at this war when I see how
comfortably they were fixed
but now their houses are
all pillaged and every thing
gone & ruin some of the
traders have made big
things of the buffaloes &c
they have brought from
there. I lost three but they

sure good for nothing. Got a
no. of brother pillboxes - saw where
old man Prescott, covered up with
earth right in the oval, also
Hunter, that married Miss
Williamson I think. Arthur is
poorly & I guess is going to have
the measles, but the men are
not having them hard, get
about in a week so there is
no danger if he does have
them. I wish you would
send up my Portfolio as
I need it to keep papers in
there are two or three letters
in the end of my drawer
marked "Private" send them.
Also my shaving fixings
yours
Doris

time if I had not waited for the Dr. & now he can't
do or say a word, but you need not be alarmed for
he is not ~~very~~ sick, has been up & in this room this morn-
ing - ^{more} ~~more~~

October 20, 1862

My dear Aunt C,

253
Your letter of the 15th was recd.
this morning, and I was very glad to hear from you
once more, it had been a long time since I had
recd a letter from home, altho I had heard several
times, why don't May write? I am glad to hear
you are getting along so well. but I was in
hopes the stable was up so the grain could
be put into that, and the colts up there &c.
that would turn a little more comfortable
turns to me you harvest turnips early down
there, but I suppose they had to be to save
them, - we are doing nicely here and my health
is firstrate, Arthur has got the measles good, I gave
him a good whisky sling last night and this morn-
ing he was a fine looking bird, Cogswell also broke
out this morning, and two or three more of the
boys are down with them, the Dr. won't do any
thing for them as they are not in the Hospital
and I am putting them thro the best I can
and I guess they are doing well, two are about
again - you speak about coming up, I should be
very glad to see you, but I don't think there is
the least necessity for it, no doubt you could
make the sick one a good deal more comfort-
able, but we are very comfortable now for sol-

-diss. and I do not expect to be sick. I am
taking little pills. Fred Merrill is also sick with
a sort of slow fever - Gastro fever the Dr
calls it. he has been up to see him once, and
said he was doing well, he was pretty sick and
ought to have been attended to before, but
I did not know he was so bad until I went
to doctoring him - but he is doing first-rate now
the greatest trouble with him is he has no
judgment about eating. There is another great
objection to your coming up. I don't know where
you could stay. We are awfully crowded. Our
officers have but one room, one they have given
up to the sick, & the rest of the house to Miles
Clark, and he is crowded every night, - and all
the quarters are chuck full. You said Henry
had written to me, but I've not rec'd any letter
from him, John Connor says he sent a pa-
per to him, but he lost his knapsack & all his things
& I presume the letter was with that. - I don't
know what to do about that Stillwater land. I let
Belotte have my half of it - but he would prob-
ably sell it - to me for 160, or 175, at most, is it
best to sell the other half for the difference
what good use could the money be put to
buy some deserted farm, if you think best I
am in favor of selling. I write to Belotte
today to see what he will take - write. I
send you Fred Merrill's order for his bounty
which you can let Strait & Hollen have, but after
the wheat is sold I shall have to draw on you
for a small amount to pay for the order, but not
very large. We should be very glad to see all of

Fort Ridgely Nov. 5, 1862

Dear people

8253
Your letter and box by Mr. Burnham were just received, for which receive many thanks. I think I shall be able to make way with the good things, altho the state of my health is not such as to give me great delicacy that pork and tatoes. Yesterday I went up to the agency twelve miles back on horseback on a very easy horse wither consequently I am not stiff today, but my appetite is good for all that. Arthur has got over the measles, but has the rheumatis in his hip so he is not able to do duty. Fred Russell I am troubled about, he got over that other spell he had, but for the last day or two the same trouble is growing upon him he has a pain in his left side & can't lay down comfortably, I guess I call it the flu. We don't do anything for him I don't get any medicine unless he orders it, if I had my mind I would give it to him. I am going to sick call in the morning, try to get something for him. I saw George Sarsner at the agency he is well & in fine spirits, the trip

DEFECTIVE PAGE

will all leave there for the South this
year. I presume, I saw lots of Indians, about
four hundred convicted ones I don't know
what is to be done with them neither does
anyone else I guess. I think they better turn
the troops loose & slaughter them all
square as papaws, what is to be done
with them if they hang their men, I am
glad I hear the folks from abroad are
sending clothes for the needy, wish they had
sent them last fall instead, I might have
got some, but I suppose there are a good
many that are really destitute, but I think
our State is able to take care of them all.
Altho I have had a poor chance to judge of
the number, I've not seen the first one
yet, I don't like the idea of having them
which I have the United States we are to
pay - in Minnesota, I guess fully one half
of the refugees have left the State.

Clara has not written since she went
away. I believe, I don't know but she will
write before she comes home, is she coming up
this fall or going to spend the winter, but
she seems to be having a good time and I
guess will think us & stop I suppose
you want me too, I don't suppose I

could be prevailed upon to come as I
spend the winter, nor I wouldn't if I was
or for she can be more comfortable at
home than she could up here, I am sure. She
is in a good deal of doubt - an Dorcas seat
I expect to see her - we shall hear well
soon. Goodnight is taken.

So ~~the~~ the wheat is threshed at
last, 40 bushels off 14 acres of crop what
was done with it - tell Mary to write - to
me & tell me what he is doing, what
has become of the cattle, did Morrison
take any of them. What are men and again
going to do this winter. I thought Mark was
going to teaching, I don't know, I am sure
feeling in the air, - Hamiltons appointment
won't affect the Co. at all, he will hold
his commission just the same, I am sure
he has not the place, I am sure I have
told you was I am, when he was here
he made a speech I told you, I think he
would stick to them if he was appointed
a major's comm, the point by the made
was we would some one to drill us &
since the election, we have got but
little drill in & no prize is are all as many
as they are, that doesn't help me.

DEFECTIVE PAGE

but I cant help feeling sort of glad
we expect to be moved from here before long,
knowing the country somewhere about
knowing where but no civilization & hope
to be strange & dont get more letters from
you & your wife to write, I cant
send a letter further than the last two mails, and
to me I cant send a letter from home,
since that day
one of our boys Tom Patton died this
morning of typhoid fever, Mr. Burham
takes his remains home - Monday
there was a funeral of twenty two who
were taken down from the fort and the
lower up near what has become of Mrs
Marble, also her daughter - she has been
ill & I must stop, besides my
shirt is nearly full, Now does Mattie
flourish of late, I think of writing to her
but if I cant hear from Shakopee
again, Our Capt left for Shakopee
this morning
Yours (Mose)

DEFECTIVE PAGE

will stop as I waste any more paper
Remember me to all my friends
Fort Ridgely, Jan 11, 1863

Dear People
Yours most

I am sitting here alone in the Capt's
room, but my thoughts are with the dear ones at home
and how I wish I was with them. I've been thinking
of you all day, the fact is I am a little homesick
today, or have got the blues or something else, and
feel just as tho I have heard girls or young
ladies say they feel sometimes, but I wouldn't
be wary for one to say how, and the worst of
it is I don't know what makes one feel so unless
it is because I am alone, the Capt. went off on
horse back this morning, Swannick is off & I am
undisturbed, and this is the first Sunday since
I've been here that I've not had some work
to do so I've had no occasion to get home-
sick before, I don't know when I shall be able
to get home, but sometime the last of the month
I think, I am going to be relieved from the
Commissary the last of this week, then I have
considerable Post writing to do & some company
then I am ready, we expect the paymaster up
about the 20, & I don't want to go till he comes
so I can have a regular bust, such as widows
have when they go on a Durlough. Brandon from J. with
is coming up here to clerk in Commissary, I expect it's
Ed's friend, Shpherd is not very well liked here the officers
are all down on him, he tries to put on too much sight

and his wife is too good to associate ~~it~~ with
dirty-vestments, but the joke of it is he is in
the Automobile Service. Do you know anything
about her antecedents her name was **Amos**
they had lived in Springfield some time & are
reported here as very wealthy. If I should
ever be prospered in worldly goods or posi-
tion, I pray for wisdom accordingly. There
are quite a number of Officers wives here now
so its quite gay they have a dance every week
but I've not attended any of them but mean
to by &c. - How do you all flourish; why don't
you May write to me, I think I shall have
to correspond with some unknown, for the
sake of getting a letter occasionally I do
not hear at all from Clara. I was
grieved to learn of the death of Motherhood
his loss will be sadly mourned, by a good
many - I hear Mr Harris & family have also left
town, a great loss to so small a town as
Shakopee - why don't you write me the
town gossip - I get my information
from Mrs Dubois, I of course get all
it. How is Arthur getting along, when will
he be able to come back. Did you ever
see the beat of this for winter, if there
was any snow enough for shipping we
should expect to see half of Shakopee
up here. - My sheet is full & I may as

March 8, 1863

8853
Good morning Sister May, if its not too early
I guess it is for its only seven I Sunday
morning, I did not think of writing until
Tuesday, but as I have an opportunity to
send, I a little time before breakfast that
I might as well improve the opportunity.
Can it be its only a week since I got back
it seems to me a month, its a pity I went
home at all, isn't it? the time drags so much
slower, well I dont think I shall be very
likely to again, for after the 15 of this month
the General has refused to grant any more
furloughs. I am very sorry to hear Uncle
Moses is so unwell, but I hope there is not
so much cause for alarm as you represent.
How is your lame back? we are a poor no
account family anyway, I had a letter from
Ed last mail, he is well and was going to
Jacksonville to take that office the first
of this month, I am glad he is going to
get out of that town of Naples, but I dont
know but it was just as well for him to
be there as at Jacksonville. Clare is in a great

hurry to have the river open so she can
get home, and I wish she was there
now, but it doesn't seem much like
the rivers being open at present, winter
has begun in good earnest, and a fair
prospect of six weeks sleighing in March.
I know of no reason why Henry should have
the blues, or not a sufficient one to cause
him to have them. I did not give him a lecture
and I am afraid I did not do my duty.

Since I came back I have been boarding
with a family named Williams pay fifty-cents
per week, but I guess I shall not board
there long as I do not consider it much
improvement upon living in the mess room
as we have a very good cook now.
Last night the boys gave an agate supper
I had a first-rate time. I cannot
write any more for the team is ready
good bye. Remember me to all
Your bro Moses

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INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE

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

562

Fort Ridgely, March 20, 1868

Dear People

882
If I don't send a letter by tomorrow's mail I suppose you will be disappointed, and I am sure you will be disappointed with this letter, for I'm nothing, but the same old story to write, Fort Ridgely is safe, and I am in ~~a~~ good condition for the occupation of the aborigines, and I should not wonder if they made the neighborhood a visit before very long, Scouts came in today report 500 at Big Stone Lake and a party of 24, were discovered at Lac Qui Parle but there is not the least danger of their attacking the fort, I only wish they would.

There is considerable excitement in the Garrison caused by the convening of a general Court Martial of which Curworth Capt. is a member, and shoulder straps are omnivorous - After they get thro here they go to Mankato smiling & round - I am afraid my friend Chipwood has got into trouble, he has been writing some letters in regard to some of the officers here & I guess they are

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564

going to put him thro. I don't know as
I care, he is no kin of mine.

There are a great many of our company
on the sick list, 19 or 20. Mr. Cole is very
sick with Typhoid fever, but I guess will
get over it. I watched with him Monday
night & last night & think he is better today.
There are two other cases of fever and
the rest various diseases & laginess.
I believe we had a letter from Clara
since I wrote but nothing new in
it - Friday Morning. As soon as how we
are going to have another winter. Last
night was about as tough a night as we have
had, some six inches of snow. I was in
hopes Spring had come, the frost was
getting dry so it was nice drilling, but
now it will be all slap again.

I hope to goodness Simon will sell his
house to Mr. Dow. I think there is too many
of the tribe for our town to contain.
How is Mrs. getting along. How is
your lame back. How are all the town
people, & Miss McDonald, in particular.
There now arent you disappointed or
disgusted with this letter.

Yours
Dose

Sunday evening
March 29, 1862

Dear People

2853
Now I wish I could slip in and spend the evening with you, and use my tongue instead of this poor pen, but its no use wishing, but then if we couldn't write, we should be sadly off, and I dislike to, so badly I sometimes think what if I couldn't. I fancy you are all in the sitting room, very likely. Uncle Mr. is stretched on the floor, and Aunt C & May are writing to me I hope, but I shall not get the letter until Friday. - It has been a beautiful day & I've been wishing all day I was at home. Sunday here does not seem as it ought to, this forenoon we had monthly inspection have to go out all equipped & knapsacks packed as tho' we were going to march and the load I had on was enough for a horse. I think I should have wilted under it, before we had marched thirty miles. This afternoon Swannick and I took a long walk into the country. I did not go to church for I thought a walk would do me as much good. The Court Marshal adjourned last night, and this morning

life for Markato, they had quite a
number of small cases here but no
one knows what the sentences are until
approved by the Genl, they raised quite a
commotion here, the Dr is mad at the
action they took in a case where he was
complainant, also Major Markham, but
the greatest of all was the arrest of
Capt Shepherd, he was arrested Friday, for
writing to the Chief Quartermaster, and slan-
dering the officers of this Post, & speaking
disrespectfully of the Commander, his trial
will be in twenty days probably at Snelling
Lieut. Brown of the Cavalry takes his office,
he relieves his clerk as a 2nd Lt below the
rank of Capt, cannot employ a Citizen
clerk, so I take the Com. again and
a man in Co. A goes into the 2nd Lt office.
I am sorry for Branson, but I am
willing to relieve Amos and do his work
for nothing, Amos has gone to St Paul on
business now, and I expect will be surpri-
sed to find me at his desk when he returns.

I had the honor of being clerk for
the Court, so had an opportunity to learn
something and know all about the charges.
I did not do more than a days work
but got credit for nine days. In the morning
I go into the Com. & shall have to work

pretty hard as the stock has all got
to be invoiced, and by the time I get settled
very likely, they the powers that be will send
another 2nd Lt. here, with the rank of Capt.
and I shall have to leave, but I don't
count the job, altho I like the extra pay,
but I am working for much same, and
must drill and make as good a soldier
as possible, I am in hopes now to get out
of the service in less than two years, for
it seems to me our prospects are brightening
a little, and unless it takes the army we
have got now, to enforce the draft.
I hope this summer will end the fighting.
I think there are enough union men to
whip the rebels north, and south, and
if they the northern ones want to try it
now let them resist the draft, and I
think in a couple of years our country
will be pretty well purified, I just
as soon shoot a northern traitor as
a southern, and some a little sooner.
I would like to have Co. I sent down
to enforce the draft in Scott Co, I think
there would be some less success there.

I don't know what will become of our
Regt, but I am inclined to think we shall
go south altho I don't know as I have
much reason to, if not we shall be

kept on the frontier, our capt went
with the Court Marshal and will be gone
nearly a month, probably you may see him.
I did not board out but ten dogs, I think
they live about as well in the quarters
and I did not like the place very well.
I shall not be able to get down again
until I am relieved from the comy. As
soon as Clara gets home she must
come up and see me, the river will
be open here in a few days, and I guess
the lake will be open by the middle
of Apr. I am sorry Gus is so poor
I wish I could afford to send her money
enough to come.

A good many of the men are on
the sick list, but none of them very
bad. Bill Cole was very sick and his
mother was up to see him, but he is
out again. Cogswell & Maxfield have
got their discharge. I shall send
this down by Cogswell.

Write again

Yours

Moses

Remember me to the town.
I am sorry Jim did not sell his
house.

Shakopee May 8, 1865

My dear brother Geo-

Here I am at
the desk in the dining room writing
my first letter from home to you
though I hardly time to write
but - a little before mail time
I'll just tell you that Gustav &
I arrived here last night about
five - & found Aunt Clara quite
sick - I do not know what is
the matter with her - something
like pleurisy I suppose - she has
a violent pain in her side & some
fever - she was very sick indeed
& they were much alarmed about
her - but now we think she will
be better though she is very weak

cannot sit up but a little while
at a time - she fell a day or
two before she was taken sick & that
hurt her considerably -

Uncle Ben looks better than I ~~found~~ expected though he seems weak &
in want of breath - & this after-
noon he is not so well & has
come up from the store to rest
a little - he is some in hopes
he shall get well I think -

It seems so strange to me here
& it is not right without you -
but I'm going to be brave & do what
I can without you - I do hope it
will not be long before you can be
at home again - I heard that
the 9th is not going on the Expedition
I am glad I believe if it is not,
though perhaps you would rather go
than stay in garrison - Ed has some
notion of going to war - I mean in
the Quartermaster's Dept - but we don't

know certainly yet - he does not
enjoy life as much he has had
to work every minute since he went
there & has had no opportunity to
enjoy himself at all -

Last Friday Ed took us to
Duney where we took the Northern
- & arrived at St. Paul Tuesday
noon - too late for the Antelope
we found the Albany going out
the next day - so went to St. Louis -
thru & returned to take that boat
& it had gone before the appointed
time - we then found the Jennette
Roberts going at evening - so we
went on in the afternoon & the
hired old boat did not go out
until yesterday noon & there we were
waiting till then - a good many
passengers were on - we thought
it was doubtful if should reach
home this week - but here we
are - & I'm so glad - I'm so

well & strong in body & mind
after my long illnesses that I'm
ready to take care of the whole
family - I guess that's promising
more than I shall perform
Aunt Lydia says to ask you what
you think about Arthur's foot he
says it is turning round - & she wants
to know your opinion -

I hope you will be soon soon
I can't stop to write any more
to night - I hope you'll
write soon - Aunt Clara
will write just as soon as she
is able -
yours affectionately
Clara

Fort Ridgely, June 28, 1863

Dear People

It will be two weeks tomorrow since I wrote to you, and since then I have been to Camp Pope and learned a little of life in tents, and am back in the old quarters again, where I expect to stay the balance of the season, altho. we may be ordered off to some of the little Post in a week, there is talk about the garrison that part of the company will be ordered away immediately, but I hope there will be influence brought to bear that will prevent a division of the company. I like Camp life very well it is not quite as nice as being in Garrison, or not quite as clean, but I should have liked to stay at Camp Pope a month longer, we were expecting to have a call from the Indians every day, and were prepared to give them a warm reception, but no call, One day we were alarmed by the Scouts coming in and reporting

a large body of indians coming down upon us, I with four others were off about three miles fishing, and a team was sent for us and we made quick time for the camp, but before we got in another scout came in reporting the supposed indians to be dogs, there was a pack of forty or fifty, that belonged to the Gitchis and indians, that are running about the country like a pack of wolves, and at a distance could be very easily mistaken for indians on horseback when the expedition left, they turned over a large lot of Ordnance stores to Capt. Strait as Commander of the Post, and most of it was old stuff and in very bad shape, and as I have to do all the work, it has kept me pretty busy, and I've got a good deal to do the next two weeks, as it's the end of the quarter I am sorry I did quit the Capt before but it's no use now, but I do hate to be of so much service as I know I am to Capt Strait, for nothing, but I have

a much more independent, and in some respects a good deal better time than I should with the company, and last day of the Capt made me a present of twenty five dollars, but I did not thank him for it, and only took it to save having a blow out with him,

Arthur seems to be having a good time and seems to me is improving slowly, I don't know whether he will get his discharge or not, but have some doubts about it, he can go into the Cripple Corps if he chooses after he is discharged, and if he doesn't get his papers will have to I guess, I am sorry to hear Clara is going to keep school, for I know she only goes from a Sunday day, then it's too far for her to go way down there, I hear we are to have a visit from some of the Shakopee folks very soon I wish the girls could come up, but I don't suppose they will be so fortunate as to get an invitation, I am still in hopes I shall get a chance to go

down before very long, if I had
not so much to do, I could go tomorrow
with an ambulance, but I cannot
away - but I will make you a
call on our way south. This fall
there are no new cases of smallpox
here and the Dr thinks there is no
danger of its spreading, I have been
vaccinated three times but with no
effect, George Duvoit is getting
along very well, but is an awful
looking object, thinks he will be
able to join the Dr at Abercrombie
I expected a letter from you last
mail but was disappointed

Yours
Mosby



United States of America.
STATE OF MINNESOTA.

STEPHEN MILLER, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Military Forces of the State:

To *Lieut. Moses Greenleaf* of the *9th* Regiment of *Inftry.* *Min.* sends Greeting
Reposing especial trust and confidence in your valor, patriotism, and fidelity, I have appointed you, the said *Lieut. Moses Greenleaf*
Captain of Co. "I" 9th Regiment of Infantry, Minnesota Volunteers,
to date from *June 23rd 1865*

You are therefore by these presents appointed and commissioned as such *Captain*

To Have and to Hold the said office of *Captain* together with all the rights,
powers, and emoluments, to the said office belonging, or by law in anywise appertaining, until this appointment and commission shall be by me
or other lawful authority superseded or annulled, or expire by force or reason of any law of this State.

In Testimony Whereof, I have herunto set my name and caused the seal of the Adjutant General
of the State of Minnesota, to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Saint
Paul, this *Eleventh* day of *July* 186*5*, and of
the State the *Eighth*

By the Commander-in-Chief,

Stephen Miller Adjutant General.

Stephen Miller