

Dussie's letter to Father about being Democrite,
Lincoln's Speech spoken of as most disparagingly

Harford, Nov. 12th, 1860.

My Dear Brother

9249 It is time to write to you
again and I am glad that it is for that
can be pleasant than to hold intercourse
with about hand and foot position. I think
that I do not half appreciate, or think of
as a right, of the kind of invitation of writing.

And so you have had a can
from such a person that entirely as
position, better than a letter and I
could look in on you and have a
nice, little chat; what could be more easy?

As to the "but-dreaded" or the
"superiority of all sorts of civilization" is
at least the ^{most} formidable part, and
I can handle just the examination con-
fused solely of the length (I suppose you

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Dussie's letter to Father about being Democrat,
Lincoln's Speech spoken of as most disparagingly

Hartford, Conn. 12th, 1860.

My Dear Brother [Franklin Carter Griswold, M. A. A. A.]

9349 It is time to write to you
again and I am glad that it is for that
can be pleasant than to be in the
milk about it. I must mention that
that I do not half appreciate, or think often
as I ought, of the kind of writing.

And so you have had a car
from your father's estate, which is
something better than a letter and I
could look in your eye and have a
nice, little chat; what could be more easy?

For I think that the whole of
"superiority of all rights and liberties" is
at least the ^{same} formidable part, and
I can breathe freely: the maxim is con-
sidered only of the length (I suppose you

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

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students would say) examples to perform
 when I first took up the paper and glanc-
 ed them over I was discouraged and tempt-
 ed to throw them down in utter despair
 they looked so difficult, but I knew that
 I could never do so I took them up again
 and managed to get them all done
 "I have not told anybody
 "I commenced before the 1st of the month before we
 were obliged to leave them which was doing
 better than I expected under the circum-
 stances some are preparing for examina-
 tion in this study in Physiology,
 Constitutional Med., Surgery, Medicine &
 Anatomical History, not one of which I should
 make as much as I did with medicine
 which was really poor - members of higher
 classes congratulated themselves that they
 were successful in previous years for I heard
 some of them say that it was the hardest
 they had ever given them.

Now seeing that our vacations do not
 occur at the same date I am quite

rebellious, I assure you, though if you
 should take that anticipatory voyage
 I should be more inclined but I
 cannot think of you as going to the
 West-land it does not seem possible.
 When you brother dear don't you know
 there is ^{& dangers} water enough between him &
 Cuba to drown you half a dozen times;
 but playful as I am, I perceive the
 voyage would be very beneficial and
 highly delightful and therefore cannot
 but hope that you will go, though of course
 you will ^{not} do so for dear old heart
 in the old home, I should say. I only
 wish that mother could go with you
 it makes my heart ache even to
 see her to look at her she is shocking.
 by thin and I know is working harder
 than she ought to do in if she should
 wear out - but I am distressing you &
 needlessly, perhaps, but as I note the
 remembrance of a poor head ^{thoughtful} as she
 suffered when I was last home - pained

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to justify and confirm my fears —
 When Brainsard has just been in
 and we have had a conversation on politics
 the all encompassing subject at present the
 Brainsard is a Republican and you know
 I suppose I quite anticipated him about things
 which he would say. So of course I was
 for me I suppose I was right. I usually
 agree, the thought in the Brainsard to have the
 3. I suppose my opinion is that
 read and which headed "Hoarding Brainsard"
 which goes on to say that the Democratic Party
 are laying out their usual place on the corner
 of Paul & Government St and add a number
 of Democratic papers on of their proceedings &c &c
 the Times in its turn gives a most disparaging
 account of Lincoln's speech & of saying things that
 concerns the opposing party. It is in short a
 running to and fro paper & then the other
 Brainsard offers to send me the Brainsard as he
 says he wants me to see the right side.
 and now I want to know if my school-brother
 intends to triumph over the teachings of his
 father, to defy all the good people at Wilkesfield
 and actually vote the Democratic ticket.
 Why Clinton & Winchell dare you do it? The
 Democratic party are you considerably more
 distant which I wish & raises father of course
 and I want you with my most sincere exhorta-
 tion of countenance not to bring down his gray
 hairs — act cautiously. The former advice of
 P. S. I beg a thousand — your despairing get-
 ting for nothing and a — hoping that
 ally better — I am in a peculiar
 mind to night — but you do not need to be told

DEFECTIVE PAGE

Milwaukee Apr. 14th 1862

My Dear Parents

Franklin W. Benson
W. Etchingsfield, Conn.

I am very sorry
to have you feel so in regard
to my going to Minn.
Surely it is no great thing nor
a great expenditure to go from
here to St. Paul full fare is
less than half what it ^{costs}
costs to come to Wash-
ington ^{from} ^{en} ^{to} ^{the} ^{city}
only about ^{two} ^{or} ^{three} ^{dollars} ^{some}
but half that I expect it will
cost me only about five dollars
to go up there. The distance
is as I am informed only about
three hundred miles by the
usual route. In regard to
locating there I can just ^{not} ^{say}
it is best or not. When I
have seen the place and stopped
for a time. I am pretty well

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well determined that I shall not
locate in Milwaukee. nor any
where near to the Lakes.
I think my throat has never been
as bad as it has been all this
spring & part of the winter.
I attribute it intirely to the
insupportable damp weather we have
had. I can't be satisfied to come
East until I have been farther
west. St Paul is not a place "out
of the world in the bushes".
A friend from Hartford Conn.
who roomed with me has located
at Menomonee about 150 miles
beyond. and that distance
by stage as soon as a railroad
is completed which is already
graded. St Paul will be only about
a days journey from here.
I should be very sorry to have to go without
your consent. I feel as though no
one you have seen could judge as
well what is for my best interests
as myself. Because they have not
the means of informing themselves

two weeks from today. I expect
now to start in two weeks.
Frank Morris has a claim on
them he wants me to look after.
If I can collect it - shall make
enough from it to pay my expenses
for a while. The W Harris affair
is an outrage. I should think it
might be proved fraudulent.
"Fraud viciates any contract" is a
legal principle. I can tell little
about the chances of collecting by law
without trying to attempt more of the facts.
I should suppose that he would
pay such debts. To his own townsmen
before all others. ~~He would~~ but
I understand you he would others in
preference. It very likely he will want
a compromise from his creditors
he is not a very old man. I think
he will not be willing to be without
property in his hands for the
remainder of life. Don't think
I should make much of a compromise
on the claim. I think you had
better see Mr. Welch or some
good honest lawyer and advise
with him as to the policy.

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two weeks from today, I expect
now to start in two weeks
Frank Morris has a claim up
there he wants me to look after
If I can collect it - shall make
enough from it to pay my expenses
for a while. The H Harris affair
is an outrage. I should think it
might be proved fraudulent
"Brand violates any contract" is a
legal principle I can do little
about the chances of collecting by law
and the policy of attempting to
enforce them. I should suppose that he would
pay such debts. To his own townsmen
before all others. ~~should appear but~~
I understand you he secured others in
preference. It very likely he will want
a ~~compromise~~ ^{compromise} from his creditors
he is not a very old man. think
he will not be willing to be without
property in his hands for the
remainder of life. Don't think
I should make much of a compromise
on the claim. think you had
better see Mr. Hils as soon
good honest lawyer and advise
with him as to the policy

of taking legal measures to
collect the claim. If you con-
clude to sue, you might let me
know before you employ counsel
though probably it would be better
to have some one that is there
and well acquainted with Con-
lans attend to the matter
I'm haste

Most Affectionately
Yours Clinton

P.S. I have not time to look
it over will write again
before I start

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

5 8 3

In Camp St. Peter (Minn) Aug 25/62

My Dear Sirs

8437
I have just received
upon our frontier has induced me to volunteer
for the my service in a company of volunteers
I send you an old paper giving some account
of the trouble - and have other papers sent
you from St. Peter - we have had about
3 or 4 weeks since we first landed for the
most constant fighting - I am in the
Golden State of Minn. consisting of about
up about - since then our company has
made up in the last times after the war
in the war the war. I think I have
long shall be - thus I say I am
to have a little war before the war
war which we will fight as all the
houses burned - the war is the
the war is the war - preparation
surely many more - I think I have
with them from the adjoining country

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE
DEFECTIVE PAGE

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

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we have not yet met the white any Indians
— are destined for Fort Ridgely where the
first commenced & where the Indians are said
to be congregated - reports say that as three thousand
strong - it is supposed that there are but few about
here - it was a small band that committed the
depredations we yesterday saw - we were guided
to the place by a father who had made his
escape the Indians came upon his family just
as they were preparing to leave - they fled to a
field of corn his wife was murdered - he went
back with us in hope he could find his children
to see the suffering man so pining to find out the
fate of his children - was that reaching his home was
learned & his four others in the vicinity -
we might have found Indian warps - but the regulations
of the army keep us from any danger to which we may
be exposed Don't give yourself any anxiety about
me I don't expect myself unnecessary. I don't fear
the future for great things to
Yours Affectionately Clinton

P.S. In regard to the money you ask to send if sent at all
if sent it will attend to forward them my
affection as I shall be glad to attend to them

DEFECTIVE PAGE

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

586

we have not yet met - the white men
 - are destined for Fort Ridgely where the
 first commenced & where the Indians are said
 to be congregated - report say that as three thousand
 strong - it is supposed that there are but few about
 here - it was a small band that surrounded the
 settlement - not yesterday - we were guarded
 to the place by a father who had made his
 escape the Indians came upon his family just
 as they were preparing to leave - they fled to a
 field of corn - his wife was murdered - he went
 back with us in hope he could find his children
 to see the suffering man - so failing to find anything
 of his children - was heart rending his house was
 burned & five families in the vicinity -
 we must avoid Indian warfare - but the neglecting
 of the cause does not help any deeper to which we may
 be exposed - Don't give yourself any anxiety about
 me I don't expect my disappearance. I don't fear
 the future for ever - Yours Affectionately Clinton

P.S. In regard to the money you sent to send if sent stand
 if sent it will attend to the persons known any
 appearance at St. Paul - I will attend to them
 2000 \$ 2000 \$

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

587

In Camp St. Peters (Minn.) Aug. 25/62

My Dear Parents

A horrible Indian raid upon our frontier has induced me to volunteer my services in a company of Cavalry. I send you an old paper giving some accounts of the trouble — will have other papers sent you from St. Paul — we have here about 300 Cavalry, six or eight hundred Infantry more constantly joining — I am in the Cullen Frontier Guards — consisting of about sixty Cavalry. Our company was made up in a few hours after the call — on the ~~road~~ the next morning. I don't know how long shall be thus engaged we seem to have a terrible war before us the county over which we rode yesterday was all desolated, saw five houses burned — the terror stricken inhabitants fled often without making but moments preparation some — probably many massacred — this place is filled with ~~them~~ from the adjoining county.

We have not yet met with any Indians — are destined for Fort Ridgley — where the war first commenced and where the Indians are said to be congregated — reports say two or three Thousand strong — it is supposed that there are but few about here — it was a small band that committed the depredation we yesterday saw — we were guided to the place by a father who had made his escape the Indians came upon his family just as they were preparing to leave — they fled to a field of corn his wife was murdered — he went back with us in hope he could find his children to see the weeping man in failing to find anything of his children — was heart rending his house was burned and four others in the vicinity. We might dread Indian warfare — but the righteousness of the cause leads us to forget any danger to which we may be exposed. Don't give yourself any anxiety about me. I shan't expose myself unnecessarily. I don't fear the future. In great haste.

Yours Affectionately Clinton

P.S In regard to the money you were to send if sent it will attended to
Norwood knows my affairs at St Paul & will attend to them

[This is a true copy]

In Camp St. Peters (Minn.) Aug. 25/62

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INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE

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

589

Friday Morn

2862

My Dear Parents,

I have a good number of
 by some company going to St. Paul and we
 after about 100 miles
 I find myself very
 last night with most of the company
 they ground watching for the first time
 about the first day - after riding 45
 miles. I feel very well this morning and am
 as to have rest today - rather a week to
 day some we have shot upwards of 1000
 last night just as we were preparing for
 not — preparation consists in unrolling of
 a blanket — have had no time to get
 One of the picked around which about
 several shots were fired and most of the company
 were stationed out in a line in line of battle
 + had but two hours sleep with arms beside them
 he would like to have had 200 or 300 of the
 Indianmen finished red skins
 I feel the same — tired by the picking
 at what was supposed to be the Indian. I just
 feel that a dead one has been found
 he was dead for 20 days yesterday found some
 grass where victims of Indian barbarity were
 killed. This is a very fine place but not about
 three hundred yards from a good Indian village
 — we were at New Hope yesterday a further
 town of about 1500 natives found no Indians
 this is the last of their north American

I may never see the like again.
As we entered the house we found a lot
of horses lying dead in every direction.
Further on a body of white men had
horrible scalps & hands severed from bodies.
The houses & buildings were nearly all burned
probably in the morning 300 east of 300 stand;
furniture scattered in every direction
but the inhabitants of the house had
escaped except a few about 10 as near as could
ascertain killed in the defense of the place.
These had decent burial given them, the rest
was probably some of the dead - a lot of
stumps of alone gone. The town was attacked
in the night - there had been little time
prepared in but the religion fought with all
the heroism which love of family & property
inspired. The Indians
retired at night but some about 1/2 of the town
in the night the women & children were gathered in
some 10 buildings adjoining one
another - burning them with boards & beams and
furniture & burning the buildings adjoining
so that the Indians should not get shelter behind
them. They were attacked again in the morning
after a few hours fighting the Indians came
in sight & the Indians were killed.
We have accounts of 20 Indians of themselves in the
further statement about first - it seems very probable
I have seen several bodies of the victims.
I hope that the war is over - we are
preparing to pursue the Indians to their lurking
places & give protection to all well behaved people &
to prepare for the future. I am sure that the
war was so urgent that we came without very little
preparation - without a change of clothes - without food - but
with the best materials we could find. I write this
after a long rest. The country is fast getting to start.
J. C. [unclear]

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I may never see the like again.
As we entered the house we found cattle
& horses lying dead in every direction.
Further on a box of a white man's head
horns & scalp had been saved from body.
The house & building were nearly all burned
probably in some fire but not as for some
furniture scattered in every direction.
But the soldiers of the 6th Ind had
escaped except a few about 16 as near as could
ascertain killed in the defense of the place.
These had been given them, the soldiers
was probably some of the soldiers of the
straps of a horse gone from him. was killed & taken
some of the soldiers had been little time
preparation but the soldiers fought with all
the heart which love of family & fear
inspired. The Indians
retreat at night about 1/3 of the town
in the night the women & children were gathered in
some of the buildings adjoining one
another - but the men with boards & logs used
for fuel & burned the buildings adjoining
so that the Indians should not get shelter behind
them. They were attacked again in the morning
after a few hours fighting the Indians were
driven out & the Indians were
I have accounts of the numbers of hundreds in the
prison & about 100 - it seems very probable
I have seen several bodies of the victims
I hope the Indians were not so - we are
preparing to pursue the Indians to their lurking
places & for protection. It will interest people
to know that about 1000 of the
Indians were so great - that we came right by the
fire place - without a change of clothes - haven't had time for
a change of clothes - with the last material we found I wrote this
after a long rest. The company are just going to start.
J. C. [unclear]

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE
DEFECTIVE PAGE

Copy of original letter written by
F. C. Griswold to his parents.

In Camp
Fort Ridjely Friday Morn.
Aug. 28/62

My Dear Parents

6273

I have a chance to send a letter by a company going to St. Paul to start in a few minutes. After about 200 miles of horseback riding I find myself well. Last night with most of our company I lay upon the ground watching for Indians, with rifle and sabre, having about 2 hours sleep — after riding 45 miles feel very well this morning our company is to have rest today — within a week today noon we have rode upwards of 200 miles — last night just as we were preparing for rest — preparation consisting in unrolling of a blanket — have had no tents as yet — one of the pickets discovered Indians skulking about — several shots were fired and most of the company were stationed out in a barn in line of battle and had but two hours sleep — with arms beside them. We would like to have met 200 or 300 of the inhuman fiendish red skins. A few shots were fired by the pickets at what were supposed to be Indians. I just hear that a dead one has been found. We came here from St. Peters yesterday found several graves where victims of Indian barbarity were buried. There is quite a large force here now about three hundred Cavalry near 1000 infantry I think — we were near New Ulm Tuesday a frontier town of about 1500 inhabitants found no Indians there but of their works heaven grant I may never see the like again — as we entered the town we found cattle and horses lying dead in every direction further on a body of a white man head horribly scalped and severed from body. the houses and buildings were nearly all burned — probably not more than 30 out of 300 standing — furniture scattered in every direction but the inhabitants Thank God had escaped excepting a few about 16 as near as could ascertain killed in the defense of the place. These had decent burial given them. The body we found was probably some one who had got left or had strayed off alone — the town was attacked Saturday noon last by about 200 or 300 Indians there had been little time for preparation but the citizens fought with all the heroism which love of family and fear of Indian Massacre could inspire the Indians retired at night having burned about 1/3 of the town, in the night the women and children were gathered in some 15 or 20 of the largest buildings adjoining one another — barricaded them with boards, boxes, wood, furniture etc. and burned the building adjoining so that the Indians should not get shelter behind them. They were attacked again in the morning after a few hours fighting, reinforcements came in sight and the Indians soon fled. We have accounts of the Massacres of hundreds in the frontier settlements about here — it seems very probable I have seen several bodies of the victims. I hope and think the worst of the war is over we are preparing to pursue the Indians to their lurking places and give protection that will induce people to return to forsaken homes. Direct as usual to St. Paul. The need was so urgent — that we came with very little preparation have not a change of clothes — havn't had time for a good wash — with the best materials can find I write this upon a knapsack. The company are just about to start.

F. C. Griswold

There is a report that there are one or two hundred women prisoners 15 miles from here a company is going out probably part of our company will go perhaps all.

(2)

[illegible]

(3)

of the surviving ship - armed - with short
Gorgette pile of boxes about us, in which
blow my powder-horns but - we must
the dead & wounded of the enemies about us
it make the best possible fight - & if possible
save the living from the foe - their substance
we was not much - but of us kept up the
fire - we had no ammunition to waste any & I burned
of cartridges. & had not prepared for such a fight
the remainder of the crew - to work & my
stitches for extraneous - some using the
few spaces we had where arms beyond of
whenever could be got - & of

It seemed almost impossible the escape must of
our horses disabled - number to carry - though
I showed them time to get out - but they thought
had we been more quiet about it - as well as
more patient in the attempt - that we got off
the contest - they were very many - but put
to a vote - which decided my side - for nearly
the expected result - I joined in that night - they
were out - but in a small party - had some moments
from the 11th to the next day, as we were not out - they
the night - and it was not until the next day
morning only that a party of shiping sailed
by morning - and had accompanied me - by a watch
in the morning - could shelter ourselves while not firing
At night - we heard cannon, announcing the approach
of the party we expected. They were a small party -
could not resist us - but could send for reinforcements
and if they should be sent off - they were fired
upon & retreated - but we had no expectation of being
changed after during the night - but we were not
except during the night - we were not
show them we were ready, & they were

DEFECTIVE PAGE

(2)

the first with the intense camp - by day & night
sets was the - perhaps - just as we could be
on blankets. The first night was a very
interesting one. The camp was a very good one
coming from the west - which was wonderful.
So well did we resist the first attack - by which
we note the savage was afraid of his life.
and thinking for our selves - apparently expect-
ing a strong camp for us - rich people. They return at
a very late hour - but I had a good sleep about the
same distance on the other side. Nothing remarkable +
pleasant about them, from first + starting + behind
back + press. They kept up a lively fire until late
at night - The position of the camp is on left a swamp
in the middle of swamp than "the water" are -
to day they have suffered a disaster - an abundance
- but they are the chief occupation.

[illegible]

(3)

of the swirling smoke around, - the ~~first~~
Belgoth. pile of horses about us, in whose
blood my plants were wet - was the main
the dead & wounded of the comrades about us
to make the best possible fight - & if possible
save the living from the foe that surrounded
us was our work. But after fighting up to
the end we had no ammunition, & had only 35 rounds
of cartridge. & had not prepared for such a fight.
The remainder of the Co went to make the
objective for entrenchment - some using the
few spaces we had when they were beyond the
volunteers could be got back of.
It seemed almost impossible the escape most of
our horses disabled - number to carry - though
we should have tried to cut -

and we have been almost so it is well every
man present in the attempt than that we give up
the contest, - they show we may be more - but put
to a more, undoubtedly any day for surely -
they expected a party to join us that night - which
they were cut off - it should probably have reinforcements
from the 11th the next day, so we worked in all things
the night - most of us worked at the south side -
mostly only doing a portion of the night's work.
By morning we had succeeded in getting by a ditch
in the trench - and the other trench while not firing.
At night we heard cannon, announcing the approach
of the party we expected. They were a small party -
could not expect to do much - but we were for re-
freshment, unless they should be cut off - they were fired
upon & retreated - we had no doubt of our expectation of being
cut off after during the night - but we were not fired at
except when we were during the night - we were expected to
show them in our hands, At the last they were

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE
DEFECTIVE PAGE

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

5 9 7

Copy of original letter written by
F. C. Griswold to his parents.

In Camp
Fort Ridgely, Sept. 7, 1862

My Dear Parents

When last I wrote I little thought I should take part in such a hard fought battle as I have just returned from. We arrived here a week ago Friday. I think I wrote you about our march to and from New Ulm — the day we arrived here we enlisted for 30 days Sunday morning our company — or rather 43 selected from them, with 75 infantry and about 20 of teamster citizens and the burial party — taken to bury the massacred dead in the vicinity of the place known as the Upper Agency — started for this place about 14 miles from the fort. We found at this vicinity of the agency 60 or 70 bodies — spectacles to awful to dwell upon. Our company went on ahead to the Little Crow Chiefs Village — found it deserted many of their things burned — I gathered ^{some} rather interesting trinkets but to come to the point — we returned to where the balance of the company were and encamped with them for the night. Saw no Indians — apparently they had gone west I had concluded we would have to go far to find them. But at early day break the next morning — Tuesday — our pickets were fired upon by Indians and we startled from our slumbers to find ourselves attacked and entirely surrounded by fiendish yelling Indians 300 or 400 strong. We were ordered behind the wagons to lie on the ground and fire, the greater part of our company were on hand and returned the first volley. Myself and many others were then bootless — just as we came from our blankets. The first volley was awfully destructive. One of our company and several of Infantry were shot dead while coming from the tent — several were wounded. So well did we resist the first attack. Why should we not? The savage was before us with his knife ready and thirsting for our scalps — apparently expecting to succeed by a strong charge against us — illy prepared. They returned to a ravine distant from shot and to a little wood about the same distance on another side taking wounded and probably dead with them from here and skulking up behind bushes and grass they kept up a brisk fire until late at night. The Indian of today is no less a savage in his mode of warfare than was he a century ago — today they have rifles and ammunition in abundance and hunting is their chief occupation. In about an hour or more their fire had a good deal abated, terrible work had been made in our little camp, one of my comrades was shot dead by my side, others were groaning and crying for water I could find but one canteen of water in the camp nearly all the water brought the night before had been used — carrying this to one wounded in a tent I found dead by his side one who I messed with the night — before eating from the same dish — the man I slept with was badly wounded — of the Infantry on the other side of the camp there were 8 or 10 dead 30 or 40 wounded half of our horses lay dead — of the whole company there were upwards of 100 horses tied closely to the rope — fortunately for me two horses fell early beside the wagon at which I and my squad were stationed forming a little barricade for us the bullets had hummed around our heads like bees — a spoke of a wagon wheel glanced a bullet evidently making for me. We had little time to think of the horrifying sight around — the Golgatha pile of horses about us, in whose blood my pants were wet — not to mind the dead and wounded of the comrades about us — To make the best possible fight and if possible save the living from the foe that surrounded us was our work. Part of us kept up the fire — we had no ammunition to waste, only 35 rounds of cartridges — had not prepared for such a fight — the remainder of the company went to work to dig entrenchments some using the few spades we had others axes bayonets plates whatever could be got hold of. It seemed almost impossible to escape most of our horses disabled — wounded to carry — thought we should have tried to cut our way through had we been driven to it — as well every man perish in the attempt than that we give up the contest — they show no mercy to men — but put to a more cruel death any who cry for mercy — We expected a small party to join us that night — unless they were cut off — we should probably have reinforcements from the Fort the next day, so we worked on all thru the night most of us working the entrenchments by turns a portion

Copy of original letter written by
F. C. Griswold to his parents.

In Camp
Fort Ridgely, Sept. 7, '62]

My Dear Parents

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INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE

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

6 0 1

keeping watch. By morning we had surrounded ourselves by a ditch in which we could shelter ourselves while not firing. At night we heard cannon announcing the approach of the party we expected, they were a small party, could not reach us — but could send for reinforcements, unless they should be cut off — they were fired upon and retreated, we were in ~~another~~ expectation of being charged upon during the night but we were not fired upon except occasionally during the night we always replied to show them we were ready. At daybreak they again attacked, but our entrenchment saved us from any great loss, already our horses were all killed or disabled. We were almost choked with thirst having drank nothing for 40 hours — save some water we had washed our potatoes in the night before we encamped ~~nothing to eat save a few cabbages and some few things left from our last supper.~~ Early in the forenoon cannon indicated the approach of reinforcements. The red skins kept firing upon us until reinforcements arrived and we upon them with the best possible effect early in the afternoon our reinforcements with their artillery drove the Indians away and came to our relief. You can't imagine how glad we were to see them and how glad to drink from their canteens and dine with them. There was a company of young men, among them from St. Paul, young Norwood (Fred) and several others I knew — they had marched all night to relieve us, right glad to see us — but shocked at the sight our camp presented — our dead 15 were brought out for burial, remainder gathered together 50 in number besides those with wounds so slight as to be able to take care of themselves, three of them have since died — over eighty horses lay dead almost in piles — there were but two so little disabled that we could take them to the Fort — from over a hundred we encamped with. You can see how terrible the carnage among our little band, all told only about 140 — about 20 of these not fighting men. I did not fully realize the horrors of battle until I saw our dead and wounded comrades, though and had leisure to look about our camp, the tent I had slept in had over 200 bullet holes. Sadly we buried our dead. A part of the reinforcements that had pursued the foe a few miles returned and getting our wounded into wagons we marched to the Fort. I should be thankful and am that I escaped with scratches save a bit of a graze on the wrist I was in the thick of the fight all the way thru except to attend to the wounded I was away from the line of battle but once during the 40 hours and then to draw in a wagon standing in the way of our defense we had to expose ourselves to bullets but Cap't requested it be done, did not like to command any to do it. I did not unduly expose myself but think I performed well my duty. Cap't praised and promoted me the next day. To look back it seems terrible though I think I would not dread any ordinary engagement as much. Those that should be good judges say there has seldom occurred a fight more terrible or more to be dreaded than this considering our number and the circumstances under which placed. Our Cap't who was all thru the Mexican War says he was never in so bad a fight nor so brave a company of men. I don't suppose I shall ever become fond of a soldiers life, have little taste for its attractions. There is much that is very obnoxious to me about camp life. I can put up with most anything if it seems to be in the way of duty. We have had a very hard service have averaged about 20 miles a day since we started — were poorly clothed and equipped we came away so hastily until we arrived here we had but one tent — no blankets for half of us — had to camp out rain or shine. ~~We shall probably have furlough for the balance of the time.~~ We shall probably have light service until we get home. As yet I am only enlisted for 30 days provided we may get a furlough for the balance of the time.

As Ever Clinton

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As Ever Clinton

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE

DAKOTA CONFLICT OF 1862 MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTIONS

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY. ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

6 0 3

Surprised by party of "H. H. K. & Co." who brought
disposable mail bag & kindly welcomed. Instead of a
fight - have met the Swains for their 3 birds
- drive them across the boundary line - are within
15 days of Fort Belknap. Albany 17th / 1863

My Dear Mr. Phillips

I first
 thought you were lost - but
 a mile from camp in charge of
 a party sent to bring you back
 for our mules. and came to us
 the same in as Indians were
 coming upon us. They
 were camped to get a double quick
 - then we had got in our mind
 that instead of Indians, we
 were but discovered a party
 of half-breed "who were picking
 things up, and then
 from civilization. so we pre-
 pared for a fight - we had just
 begun to fight and killed one
 and got mules all in terror -
 our hearts were gladdened by

Surprised by party of "Hill Bands" who brought
despatches, mail & glad to be seen, instead of
fight. Have met the Indians for the first time since
drew them across the treacherous river - are within
15 days march of Fort Columbus. Aug 17th / 1863

Wm. L. Bullitt

9349 A few
minutes ago as I was out - but
a mile from camp in charge of
a party sent to bring in
for our mules. word came from
the camp in an Indian's voice
coming upon us. This was
not enough to start a charge
- but got us so
that instead of proceeding
to the fort we were
of "Hill Bands" who were
thought desperate and far
from civilization. so for pre-
paration for a fight - we had just
been let in and settled our
and got ourselves all in
our hands were gladdened by

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE
DEFECTIVE PAGE

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

605

by news from Home, consisted
what a rejoicing ~~expected~~ letters &
papers will give to those distant
communications to us from our
dear friends, for near three weeks
and without any possible means of
communicating in ~~any~~ matter what the
emergency.

The Expedition is now well
 Banded in within four days
 north of the Camp where we left -
 a detachment of the in communication
 with Ft. Humboldt - within
 fifteen days march of that Port -
 The Expedition has been
 so successful beyond what we had
 reason to hope we have met
 the Indians fought their
 "Brave" three times upon their own
 ground in great numbers, - have
 inflicted a wound to ^{several} ~~the~~ ~~of~~ them -
 driven them ~~from~~ ~~the~~ ~~place~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~place~~

a. making many to hate the
dual - pursued them while they
to the Missouri, & as so.
captured boats & crews of their
drive Buffalo meat, furs, &
two or three hundred wagons.
several of which were shot from
us last fall, if our horses had
not have been since past
and then on account of the
war + pestilence have found
the whole train, Lyon's baggage
I fear - present state - and all
as it was pursued them
fully that they were obliged to
to them away across the river
they were depending upon for
during the coming winter
here on the wild prairie
characterized probably more
severe than the ~~Missouri~~
~~lower~~ ~~Missouri~~ ~~river~~
we reached the Missouri just

DEFECTIVE PAGE

DAKOTA CONFLICT OF 1862 MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTIONS
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b o b

by news from Home. connects
what a rejoicing ~~spectator~~ ^{editor} &
papers will give to their instant
communication. It is for a moment
the same. for nearly three weeks
and without any possible means of
communication, no matter what the
emergency.

The Expedition is now well
bound on within four days
march to the Camp where we left
a detachment of ~~the~~ in communication
with Ft. Humboldt. — within
a few days march of that Fort.
The expedition has been
successful beyond what we had
reason to hope we have met
the Indians, fought this
"War" three times upon the same
ground in great numbers, — being
defeating a superior ^{force} of them
seven times ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} place

in making many "bite the dust." pursued this whole train to the Illinois, & across the exposed Levee & back of this drive sought the meat, furs, & two or three hundred weapons. Several of the Indians shot from us last fall, if our horses had not have been with us, we could have been on a great deal of the whole train, from Peppin to the first Indian town - and all of us as we passed them saying that they were obliged to do this and a great deal more they were depending upon for living the coming winter, and live on the whole give a cheerishment probably more severe than the ~~other~~ ^{last} year's. ~~we~~ ^{we} reached the Missouri just

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE
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b 0 7

Handwritten text, likely a letter or manuscript, visible through the paper. The text is written in cursive and is mostly illegible due to the quality of the reproduction. Some words like "My dear" and "I am" are faintly visible.

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE
DEFECTIVE PAGE

DAKOTA CONFLICT OF 1862 MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTIONS
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6 1 0

Head Qrs Princeton Station Minn.
January 17th 1865

My Dear Parents

I have been deferring writing
from day to day until I should find my new
locality. here it is. My Company has
come in from Ft. Snodgrass and I am now
with it. or rather in command of a
Detachment of fifty men. Stationed here
to look after the Chippewa Indians.
Princeton is about seventy miles from Ft.
Pemb. - only twenty from the R. Road. -
quite a pleasant village of two or three
hundred inhabitants. There has been no
trouble with the Chippewas only they are
getting rather bold and annoying to the
settles. I had to go out the other day
about twenty miles & order away from the
vicinity of Settlement about two hundred
of them. they moved without any
trouble. didn't like to but I
had a Council with these Head
men. explained to them that according
to their treaty they had no rights
there. and that I was ordered to

9349

<p><i>[Faint handwritten text, mostly illegible]</i></p>	<p>Head of the 1865 Prisoner Sk. Minn. Had been sent to the army about 200 prisoners. Had com- at will had over to the fact according to the fact they had no right then</p>	<p>Indian Turtle Cupperwa Ella May</p>
<p><i>[Faint handwritten text, mostly illegible]</i></p>	<p><i>[Faint handwritten text, mostly illegible]</i></p>	<p><i>[Faint handwritten text, mostly illegible]</i></p>

DEFECTIVE PAGE

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6 1 3

COPY

Accession No. 9349

[1921]

Franklin Clinton Griswold
Memorial

The Second Minnesota Cavalry, just being organized, our comrade immediately joined that regiment and was made Second Lieutenant of Company "M", and was soon promoted to First Lieutenant. He was at once ordered on detached service and was made commander of the post at Glencoe. From there he was ordered to Fort Snelling as post adjutant; from there to Princeton, Minn., as commander of the post at that place.

On Dec. 4, 1865, he was mustered out of service on account of expiration of term of enlistment.

Previous to coming to Minnesota he had practiced law at Milwaukee for a short time. Soon after being mustered out of the army he located in South Minneapolis, near Lake Street and Minnehaha Avenue, where he became active in the improvements of that section of the city, and was instrumental in getting the beautiful shade trees that line the streets in that part of the city. He also took an active part in the widening of Lake Street and getting the bridge across the Mississippi at Lake Street. He also engaged in the practice of law and was elected justice of the peace.

About that time his health necessitated a change. He went into the real estate and building business, which he continued as long as his health permitted. After living in South Minneapolis for a great many years, he moved to Upper Nicollet Island, where he had lived for about thirty years at the time he passed away.

Our comrade was identified with quite a number of organizations, among which was the old Board of Trade, St. Anthony Commercial Club, John A. Rawlins Post of the G.A.R., and was president and vice president of the Minnesota Veteran Cavalry Association.

The funeral services were held at the residence and were largely attended. They were conducted by Dr. Dewey of Plymouth Church, of which the family were pioneer members and faithful attendants, followed by the G.A.R. service by Rawlins Post. Our comrade was blessed with a fine and large family. He was married twice. By the first marriage there were three children, one of whom passed away a few years ago following an operation. He was a fine singer and had a remarkable voice. He, Putnam Griswold, had spent several years in Europe in study and also in his vocation as a singer. He had sung before the Kaiser of Germany and his family, for which he was honored by the Kaiser.

Continuation

COPY

Franklin Clinton Griswold

Memorial

Our comrade married as his second wife a Miss Hall of this city, and from that marriage there were ten children, who are all living. Surviving Comrade Griswold are his wife and twelve children, seven boys and five girls. It is certainly a fine family and a fine record.

Comrade Griswold did not leave a large estate, but he did leave a fine family and a good reputation. He was a good citizen and a brave soldier, and we extend our heartfelt sympathy to the widow and children in their bereavement. We recommend that with the approval of the Memorial, a copy be sent to the family of our comrade.

(Signed) CHAS. I. PLUMMER

H. W. BRAZIE

TAYLOR HOWE

Franklin Clinton Griswold was born Sept. 10, 1838
and died Dec. 1, 1921

He was called "Clint" to distinguish him from his father
whose name was Franklin Wolcott Griswold, born Mar. 28, 1815
died Sept. 21, 1886

His father Franklin Wolcott Griswold married Emily Adams, Sept. 19, 1837
She was born Oct. 30, 1816.

The children of Franklin Wolcott Griswold and Emily Adams were:

Sister Franklin Clinton Griswold born Sept. 10, 1838, died Dec. 1, 1921
Emily Augusta (Gussie) " " May 9, 1843, died July 21, 1925
Henry Adams Griswold " " July 21, 1847, died Mar. 30, 1909
Mary Helena Griswold " " Aug. 20, 1849, died May 13, 1912
Ella Frances Griswold " " Sept. 13, 1856
Willie Parker Griswold " " Jan. 24, 1852
(foster child)

Emily Augusta (Gussie) Griswold mentioned above was married
first on Dec. 31, 1863.

Mary Helena Griswold mentioned above was married Dec. 28, 1870

Franklin Clinton Griswold mentioned above was married 1st to
Sarah Elizabeth Putnam, widow of E. W. Dimick.
Franklin Clinton Griswold married (2nd) Jan. 24, 1882,
Ella Hall.

Reference to Griswold, Wolcott, Adams, Welles, Balch, and related
families is made in "History of Ancient Wethersfield, Conn., Vol. I."

"Wolcott Genealogy" by Chandler Wolcott, see page 90. Also
see Wolcott Genealogy by A.B. Rudd.

See the Griswold Family by G. E. Griswold, page 304 for the
birth of Franklin Clinton Griswold.

See "As the River Flows" by C.C. Griswold, for information about
the Griswold Family, and page 104 for the birth and marriage of
Ella Hall to Franklin Clinton Griswold.