

W. H. HAZZARD,  
Wholesale Brokerage.  
Sec'y Omaha Produce Exchange.  
Office 508 S. 10th St.

Omaha, Neb., ..... 1897

Dedicated to My Daughter May.

That you may know something of my early life which is  
very often a great satisfaction to children & grand children,  
I will write a sketch of my life, for you

Born in the town of Seaford, Sussex County N. W Fork  
hundred. State of Delaware, in the year of 1841. June 22<sup>d</sup>  
Parents Name Rhoades Lucinda, Matilda. lived in the town  
until 9. years of age, then parents moved to the farm name  
Appleby Grove 3 Miles from Seaford lived three years on the  
farm moved to Seaford My education was received from the  
Public School including a few terms in the Academy of the town  
at 16. years of age was Sent to Philadelphia to School Made  
the trip by water in a two mast Schooner. Captain Ben McNeby  
Reaching Phil in October 1857. remaining there until June 1858.  
then returned to My Home. this completed My education. I

179896  
8 May 1897  
L. H. Hazzard

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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY. ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

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took a position in general Store Owned by John O Hosey at the Salary of 6.<sup>pr</sup> Month and board, remaining there but a few months when at my Mothers wish I went into Dr Shipley's office to Study Medicine that being to confining I gave it up and went to budding Peach trees. during the Summer of 1859,- My Brother James, visited the Home comeing from the far away Territory of Minnesota Wished Me to go Home with him which I did arriveing in St Paul in late October 1859. after spending a day in St Paul we embarked on board a Small Steamer up the Minnesota river as far as Shakopee then by Stage to Ottawa our destination where my Brother owned a Store general Merchandize I remained with him a few month and then went with a Stock of goods to Cleveland 8 Miles away in the big woods located on the Dodd road, remaining there until Spring 1860 Selling out the Stock of goods going to Sibley county Six Miles west of Lesueur, P. Office Rush River where I located on 40 acre tract of land, haveing a good log House on it which I improved and made it the coziest home in the County there I remained and farmed until Sept 1861-- when I went East to My

Native State and Married Miss Martha A. Morgan, Daughter of Stephen M. Morgan of Sussex Co. Naticoke hundred Married Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> 1861 After a few weeks we took up our journey Westward Stopping in Philadelphia Buffalo & Niagara Falls arriveing at Henderson Early in November where My Oldest Brother James met wife & I and Conveyed us to our beautiful log Cabin home on the Banks of the Rush River in Sibley County, where we spent the winter to our own Satisfaction, visiting and being visited and preparing best we could for Summer taking care of a small flock of sheep, 30 head and a few cows and pair horses. The Spring found us ready & anxious for work, and we entered upon the Spring work with great hopes of reaping an abundant harvest with the increase of stock our prospects were beautiful but alas, there comes a time in the lives of all people that tries their Souls. it came to us, 18<sup>th</sup> of August 1862, while My Brother Thomas & Myself were Stacking wheat on his farm,-- about 3 P. M. A Messenger on a Swift Horse rode up to us and gave us the alarm/or the news for it did not alarm us very Much that the Sioux Indians whose reservation was on

the Minnesota & Yellow Medicine River had committed outrages  
on the people burning t& Murdering the People in their homes  
on the farms on the road wherever they could find a white Man---  
We continued our work until the regular quitting time on the  
farm I going to my Home, My prother to his on my arrival at  
Home I told My Wife the news and said to her I don't give much  
credit to the news we retired at our regular time about  
Midnight a Messenger from my Brothers home saying you had  
better get up to Mr Morgans House My Wife's Uncle which we did  
both rideing one horse on our arrival there after the  
ride of a mile & half, we found My Brothers family and Neighbours  
gathered there ready for the Savager to make his appearance,  
but they came not when the morning dawned upon us no Indians  
in sight we sent a Messenger by the Name of winters to St.  
Peters 10 Miles away, to get the report-- Away he went  
as he neared the town he met a messenger Comeing from the town

and said to him you had better Not go into town and after  
hearing the report that the Indians had burned Fort Ridgley  
and Killed the people at the Yellow Medicine Agency, and burning  
the town of New Ulm and Massacreing the people in their Homes--  
he returned to us with the Message that death was on our track  
for the Indians were on the warpath-- The Next Morning My  
Brother and Myself arranged for our families to remain at  
Mr J. W, Morgan's with the protection they would have their from  
the Men from the different homes and we My Brother Thomas &  
Myself went to St Peter to learn for ourselves we arrived  
there and found the people greatly excited Men walking the  
Streets Carrying their guns and Companies of Men getting  
ready to go to New Ulm to defend the city against invasion  
and the Slaughter by the Indians Brother & I joined the Company  
and went to New Ulm arriveing there Thursday Morning. We  
found the town under Martial Col Flandreau in Command the  
population in great excitement Every Man that owned a gun, no  
matter what description had it in his hand expecting an attack



by the Indians at any time Many Men were walking the Streets with pitch forks or axes any thing that they could use in defense we were greeted with reports that the Indians were comeing in great force Murdering and burning everything before them the heartrending accounts fired our blood the scene of four Children in one bed in a house that the Indians had beaten and left for dead but were still liveing Caused us to buckel on the rifle and be prepared for active duty The Number of troops to defend the town from further invasion were too few and yet with brave hearts we went out Friday Morning to shoot or be shot up the little Cottonwood river and bring in any families that Might have escaped the axe of the Savage-- Our company upon that Memorable priday buried 16, people that had been Murdered by the Indians and found a company of 13 in the high grass, that had been hiding from the Red Skins we Made their hearts happy by rescuing them and conveying them safely to new Ulm Among the Company was an

old lady 62, years of age who had been shot through the arm, before leaveing her home-- She died shortly after reaching New Ulm. Saturday Morning brought to us a sigh of relief as we had rested in quiet No alarms had been Sounded during the Night. Then comes the thought to Brother and Myself how about our own families we had been away from three days. they may be in the hands of the Savage by this time we said well the Indians have gone back or taken some other course and our homes & families may be in danger, we had better go back to them but we are reminded we cannot get out of town without a permit by the Commander of the post So we went to him laid our case before him found him very reasonable saying to us well gentlemen we would like to have you remain there may be some work to be done here yet and you may be needed I wish you would remain until Noon and if there are no demonstrations by the Indians you will be permitted to return to your homes, we quietly

acquiesced returned to our company waiting orders it was not long before we received orders to fall into line that there was prospect of trouble. fires across the River Showed the work of the Indians Seventy five men were sent across the river that weakened our forces, then to the N. West of town on a Knoll were seen riders they were Scouts taking a Survey and attracting our attention while 500 or More of their warriors were crawling like snakes down the River along the bottom land in the high grass preparing for an attack our Company was ordered to the ridge extending along the West Side of the town ready to defend the town we did not have to wait long before the Indians like so many Crows arose out of their hiding places and with a yell and a charge upon our forces they were repulsed and we held the ground and proved to them Although we were out Numbered we had force enough to hold our town and so we did orders were given by the Commander to take to our places of defense which was the four story wind Mill and to one or two brick houses-- get ready and make a strong defense which order was obeyed Myself & brother and

Lieut Steward going to the wind Mill with 10 other Men and held that post and saved the town during the day As we had the Commanding position On our way to the wind Mill we Stopped for a short time in an unoccupied brick house which we held until the Indians drove us out by rushing into it while we retreated from it the Balls flying around our heads Causing me to loose My hat and all praise to a wise providence I did not loose my life

The wind Mill was a very Safe place as it proved-located on a hill gave us a beautiful view of the country and Strong defence of the town the entire day (Saturday) the attack was Kept up by the Indians coming up in short range Many times showing their bravery but repulsed each time and about 4,0 clock in the afternoon a Command was given by the Commander of the post to Make a charge on the Indians who were massing their forces in the South West part of the town hoping they might take the wind



Mill Capture the forces in the Mill and the town would be  
theirs the orders were obeyed the Indians were routed driven  
back and immediately began their retreat to the western Hills,  
and we breathed Easier, the shades of night Covered us and  
we began to think of Someting to eat and to make ourselves  
comfortable for the night haveing had nothing to eat since  
Morning then a new order greeted our Ears the Commander  
of the Post orders the Wind Mill burned that brought Sadness  
to our hearts it had been our strong defence during the day  
and we had Said to the Lieut--increase our numbers to 25 and  
we would hold the Mill and defend at all Hazards.-- again the  
order came to burn the mill and we had to obey the order  
and your Father went to the top story and with a Match and old  
Straw tick did the work that destroyed the beautiful Mill and  
we retreated to the brick building used for the Post Office and  
there we found an elegant Supper waiting us

W. H. Hazzard.

*Copied + Colored  
May 8, 1917  
by J. J. Hule*  
[The original is in the possession of  
Mrs. Wm. C. Timmerman, Minneapolis]

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