



Infamabilem in magnificentis Ludovic

Jacob Vnberg

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

0 4 1 8



Salt Lake City  
3 December 1864

Dear Brother, Mother and Children,

Within I let you know that I am in good health and feel well. I hope that these few lines will reach you in good health, and joyous mood.

As this short letter has left me, Dear Mother, Please be not angry at me that I haven't written sooner. I wanted to find first a place to stay but that is hard to find. I'm traveling to Arizona with John Atrub.

We're worried about the Northwest Indians and the bandit (badman) Mr. Wolek. Through sweat and fear we made it and so will get through these canyons.

Yesterday, we had 6" of snow. Today its almost gone again. *Pope*

Dear Brother, I wrote from Camp (Rob, Cob, Pob?) but don't know if you Received it or not. Therefore I will give you a story of my travels from Camp *Rob? Pope* We had a joyous (good) trip through the Dakotas to the Missouri River, There we met General *Scully* (Sully)

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Tears were in my eyes when we met him and we stayed there for ten days. It was 4 hard days on the Hart River, where General *Scully* drove the Indians 60 miles back, with a war cry, to the little Missouri River. The Indians almost got me there if it wasn't for the soldiers that came to help, I might've been killed. I also participated in a 3 day battle with the Indians. Mr. Wamayer was shot and killed. We found tracks, trapped them and killed them all. John Braunwart of Carver and I were attempting to cross the Yellowstone River and John fell and drowned before I could help him. Then I went 40 miles to the Madison River to Fort Union. We could not return to the Yellowstone River on account of the Indians. General *Scully* went back to the States and we had no choice but to hire a guide to Fort Benton he charged us \$125.00. We paddled a canoe down the *Milch* (Milk?) River and we became seasick and found a cabin (Shelter). The Indians watched us for awhile. Myself, Heinrich Goodman, (Hans, Happ, or Haas, (unreadable) from Wanakeeta went some days back to buy one ox and three cows. We were waylaid by 11 Indians and have been robbed of 1 ox and 1 cow and hardly escaped with our life. In the meantime we got to Fort Union and Fort Benton, they had many buffaloes. You could see them by the thousands. We ate buffalo meat. At the Teton River again were Indians. They came to us to exchange Buffalo skins. In a few days we were full of lice. On the 12th of September we came again to Fort Benton and wanted to build but there was a shortage of wood. We left Fort Benton on a rainy Sunday, there was a man from the train and he took us along. The train had 2 hills (or mountains) to climb. We made slow progress and finally reached a quicksilver mine. Larson, Rump and Henning and others and I remained there 10 dyas. We didn't accomplish a thing. Then we went to Virginia City (Must mean Virginia City, Montana, which is a ghost town today) the goods are very reasonable and cheaper than in the states and it is a very lively town. It is the principle city of the territory. It is a hike of five miles (50?) to the next city. (He used the word Omnibus, which is a german word meaning transport which in this case must mean transport self) I believe in two years Virginia City will not be the same as today. If you hock something for \$5.00 in a Hock Shop it will cost you \$22.00 to redeem it.

Goodman, Comstock and Habeiscen and myself remained there  
we had an early winter, On the 8 of October, we had alot of  
snow and the river was frozen. I packed up and left for the  
mountains and encountered 6 inches of snow. I got through the  
snow lucky with my pal. (He named his pal but it is unreadable  
must be a dog or horse, more than likely horse) Then somebody  
stole my pal and I was alone again and I have not found him yet.  
I'm not yet where I wanted to go. I'm in the Mormon City,  
and everything is very expensive. Tomorrow I shall go on.  
Please excuse my bad writing. I would like to write more,  
but I'll tell you more when I'm at home.  
Greetings to all my good friends and neighbors for me  
and (translation, singing companions ?)

I remain your Trusting  
Straightforward Brother

Jacob Urbach

Translated from High German  
by Mr. Albert Siemorth  
August 9, 1968  
by Jeanne Urbach Arthur  
Rt 2 Bx 468  
Boring, Oregon 97009



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*Handwritten:* Habeiscen's wife 468

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE

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Catherine persons have a  
copy of this letter and the  
translation of it which we got  
a month or so ago, made  
for Hermann who will check  
translation.

H

Mrs Arthur —

Jacob Wach







Salt Lake City  
3 December 1864

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DEFECTIVE PAGE

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