

McNulty, Agnes I. . . -

When I read of your
contest in the ^{Benjamin} ~~Benjamin~~
it reminded me of
William Van Ness,
one of the first
settlers of Meeker
County, who has
been sleeping for
several years in the
cemetery at Caith Rock.
He was always
friendly to the
Indians, and was
the only one at the
beginning of the outbreak
who dared to go to the
Jones cabin and

2.

removes the bodies
for burial. He always
boasted that he
never fired a shot
against an Indian
and in return neither
his stock nor property
was molested.

There are many living
who as children visited
Mr. Van Ness and his
wife in their hospitable
home on the banks of
the Little Crow River in
Forest City, Becker Co.
There was a fort in
the little village of

3.

Forest City where the soldiers
took their wives and
children for protection
during the troubled
year of 1862.

I am gathering your data
concerning the outbreak.
I wish you would pay
some little tribute to
Mr. Van Ness, who never
tired of telling the story
of that drama in which
he played so important a
part.

Agnes Mc Nulty,
Pine wood,
Minnesota