

Sunday Morning
Mar 24/63

Dear Wife

10,127
The annexed map though the scale & proportions are very badly drawn will give you some idea of the principal points - The Raid extended every where west of the small "waved lines" some of the murders extending to Dakota & ^{perhaps} Iowa - Fort Ridgely & Fort Abraham & the village of New Ulm were each invested 2 or 3 days by the Indians & smart battles fought at each place - The first murders were at the Lower Agency early on Monday morning the 18th of August & same day at New Ulm & several other points - Monday night they attacked the Upper Agency - You will notice the Reservation of the Sioux stretching more than 100 miles along the Minnesota River & about 10 miles wide -

There was a report from New Ulm last night that while some 25 of our Cavalry were out a day or two ago pursuing the trail of the Indians who had a little before shot a ~~farmer~~ near New Ulm & stolen his team they came upon a camp of Indians about 40 miles ^{from the west of} New Ulm counted some 20 ^(ten) & fearing a larger body sent back to Fort Ridgely for

reinforcements - A troop of Cavalry have
just gone from here - It is also said
that a full blooded Indian & half breed
girls & a Frenchman about the same
time came to New Ulm & surrounded
themselves professing entire ignorance of
past events or even of the outbreak
of last fall - The alarmed people see
a cat under every meal heap - There
are very vague rumors & may have
a shallow foundation - There are
very few white settlers remaining now
any where 5 miles or more West or
South West of New Ulm or any where
North of a line drawn 5 miles South
of Hart Ridge until you approach
the Mississippi River - It is
perhaps quite as well that the
people & military have been aroused
by this early audacity of the Indians
coming so near as it will prevent
a false security - Genl Sibley's
rendezvous (Camp Pope) where he
now has ~~4000~~ men or men waiting
to start West is on the Mississippi
River near Upper Agency

5 1/2 o'clock P.M. So far I had
written this morning & laid my sheet
aside - I now resume to show you
how easy it is for cowardly Dutch
troops to see "men in buckram"
over to ~~the~~

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I don't admit it at all but I
don't think the men

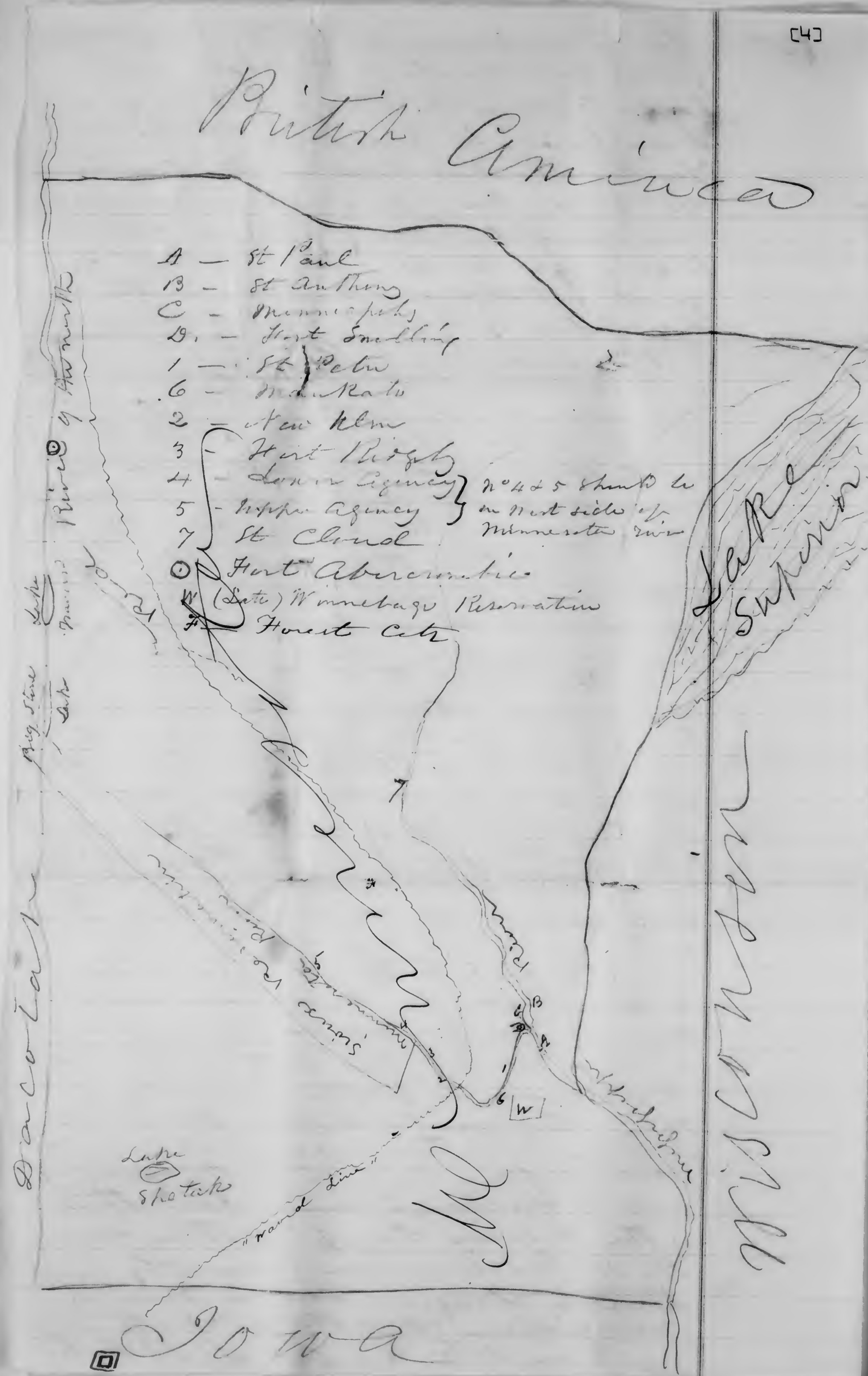
The "Frenchman" & the two half breed
girls above mentioned & I have just
had a talk with them - Instead of a
Frenchman he is a full blooded
Yankee who has lived in this country
40 years - his wife was a Sioux woman
& his daughters (young girls) are either
half or 3/4 breed - He is a man of
great intelligence & has been in the
Legislature of Minnesota but a regular
trapper & hunter - His story is, that
in June 1862 he with his 2 daughters
& 2 sons and a Sioux Indian as guide
& with 2 teams (an ox & a mule team)
went down near the N.W. corner of
Iowa or South West corner of Minnesota
(I have marked the supposed point $\square$) to
trap - wintered there without seeing
either a white man or an Indian to
speak with them - (only saw 3 Indians
once at a distance & once 2 or 3 whites
whom they thought to be thieves or hunters)
& were now returning with one of their
teams well loaded with furs & pelts
- never heard of the Indian raid until
within 5 miles of New Ulm - At
about 25 miles from New Ulm &
while in the open prairie they saw
on either side of them & within
long rifle range at 5 o'clock in the
afternoon 2 or 3 days ago some 25
mounted U.S. troops who never came
to them but who must have seen
them - The hunting party next
morning reached the settlements near
New Ulm & the people incredulous of
their story wanted to kill them but
perhaps saw their rifles & did not
- Col. Welles here found the man very
well & discharged him - And this
is the Indian Camp & there are
the 10 Indians one cowardly
Dutch Dragoon saw - There is
no reliance upon their reports
Ever & truly A. S. White

DEFECTIVE PAGE

British America

- A - St Paul
- B - St Anthony
- C - Minneapolis
- D - Fort Snelling
- 1 - St Peter
- 6 - Mankato
- 2 - New Ulm
- 3 - Fort Dodge
- 4 - Lower Agency
- 5 - Upper Agency
- 7 - St Cloud
- ① Fort Abernethy
- W (State) Winnebago Reservation
- H Forest City

No 4 & 5 should be
on West side of
Minnesota River



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INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE
DEFECTIVE PAGE

St Peter July 30/63

Dear Wife

I am waiting for the stage to go to Henderson (15 miles down the Minnesota R. toward St Paul) whither my colleagues have already gone - I suppose we shall finish there this week & proceed to Minneapolis en route to St Cloud, but shall soon return to Minneapolis henceforth our central point - Yesterday I returned from a visit to New Ulm & Fort Ridgely 45 miles up the Minnesota & N. West of this - There are some ^{scurry} rumors at the Fort where ^{reported} they saw 3 Indians 5 miles above there, the same day we arrived - Every mail brings news of some dragging Indian shaking or murdering in the North Western Co. - but half the reports are apocryphal - Ten miles above the Fort they had just killed a buffalo when head I saw - he was below them an Indian

I have rec'd a letter from Albert Dennistown who had recovered the body of Isaac which had been injured in the battle

field - The Government having occupied the
Rail road he was obliged to lie in the
bed in the cemetery at Gt. Fallsburg &
will go for it when the roads are free
- He fell dead at the head of his Company
wounded with 3 balls - Altho says Mr.
Nick has the calamity with the further
- He does not say one word about
Lieut. Sumner - I shall not be
able to hear from you until I reach
Minneapolis as I have directed all
my letters to be forwarded there - Every
thing you write hereafter will duly reach
me at Minneapolis

We had quince come yesterday from a
St. Peter garden - Can you beat
that? I have no time for more
as the stage is due - Love to the
family - Write often

Ever & Truly

A. M. J. White

Mrs. White

DEFECTIVE PAGE

Washington, D. C., Feb. 17th 1862.
Hon. A. S. White

Rockwell, Ind.

My Dear Sir

10/127
It is the wish of all, or
nearly all of the Minnesotians here
that you should draw up the Bill
to be reported by the Committee on
Indian Affairs, for the "Relief of the
Sufferers in our State" - Mr. Bigelow
of St. Paul says you can do it better
than any other Man - all agree on
that - we all ^{want} you to draw up a Bill
& send it to Mrs. Galt for me -

Please do this & oblige.

Little or nothing has yet been done
by the Secretary so far as I can learn.

Most Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servant

Byrd H. H. H. H.

Cyprian A. Smith
Feb 27th 1864
Answered

Dear Violet:-

Tuesday night

Frances sent me your request for information she did not have, asking me to send it direct to you if I had anything on the subject. I have copied excerpts which bear on the subject - garden least and scribbling, but it is late and I want to mail this in the morning. I think the Congressional Executive Documents will be in your city library, but suppose your friend may have consulted them already as the most probable source of information. The New England Society memoir does not seem to mention the matter. I do not know who wrote the more complete memoir I have,

but I imagine Uncle Albert
gave it to father & Arthur
or Albert may have had a copy.
Shall I ask young Albert?

I am living with an
old school friend who is
an English teacher in the
Dane H. S. we went to to-
gether, and tonight we went
to a music ^{recitation} course in the
adult school there in which
was once our gymnasium
- ask Arthur if he remem-
bers it! - It is a very much
happier situation for me
than my former one,
assure you.

I hope my scribbles are
of some use - much love to
you both. Affectionately yours,
Wm North Burnett
East Orange

(From typed manuscript, source unknown)

... In August, 1862, occurred
a most unexpected and bloody
episode, not in the field of war,
but in Minnesota. The Sioux
Indians on the 18th of that
month, began the massacre
which, in the single month of
its fury, took the lives of
several hundred people, and
caused "the complete depopu-
lation of 19 counties and of
parts of 4 others", the destruc-
tion of a vast amount of
property, and the infliction
of sufferings attended by
all the horrors peculiar
to Indian warfare. In February
1863, a few days before Mr.
Whites' term expired,
Congress passed "an act for
the relief of persons for damages

ENCLOSURE

sustained by reason of depredations, and injuries by certain bands of Sioux Indians." Of this commission of 3, Mr. White was the chairman. The work of the commission began in April, and was completed about the first of December, and included "nearly 20,000 manuscript pages of legal cap." The arrangement of this mass of evidence, the names of the claimants, the nature and amount of their claims, and other facts bearing on the case constitute a model report showing the presence of a methodical mind. Accompanying these manuscripts is the general report

of the Commission. It fills only 10 pages, but in all respects it is an interesting production, especially on account of the human and spirit which pervades it, and the scholarly style in which it is presented. The fidelity and ability of Mr. White in this Commission were conceded on all hands, and met with the cordial approval of Congress and of the public at large. (Executive Documents 1st Session 38th Congress, Document No. 58.) ...

ENCLOSURE

Daily Journal
 La Fayette, Indiana
 Monday morning, Sept. 5, 1864
 Death of Hon. Albert S. White.

... In the fall of 1859 Mr. White was nominated for Congress by the Republicans of this District in place of the lamented Rice, who died shortly after commencing this canvass. (sic) Mr. White was elected by a large majority. ... At the close of this term Mr. White was appointed by President Lincoln one of three Commissioners to adjust the claims of citizens of Minnesota and Dakota against the Government for Indian depredations.

ENCLOSURE

In the 15th of July, 1845, he was elected correspondent and member of the "New England Historic Genealogical Society," an honor which was peculiarly gratifying to him, & led to some historical investigation into the early history of his own family, the results of which appear in this memoir. Memorial biographies of the N. E. H. G. S. Volume VI, 1864-1871 Boston, pub. by Society, 1905. (From same manuscript, source unknown.)

Found it!
 There is some material in one of the New England H. G. S. volumes, I believe, but I don't know which one. If they are available & indexed it should be a single matter to locate it.

The position was one of great
responsibility and its duties
were discharged to the
satisfaction of the Government...

ENCLOSURE