



[Lawrence Taliaferro papers.](#)

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written in 1864.

7 The name of Taliapero is both ancient and honorable. Some miles distant from Williamsburg Virginia near an old brick church may be seen the resting place of the old colonial family of the Taliaperos. Laurence Taliapero deceased 1748. John Taliapero of Snow Creek 1744. But to go further back in date we come to the year 1637. When four brothers John, Lawrence, James, and Francis Taliapero emigrated from Genoa Italy to England, and after five years in London crossed the Atlantic and landed with other emigrants at James Town about the year 1637 or shortly thereafter. From these brothers sprang a large connection. Some were officers, and privates in the Revolutionary War - also in the War of Independence of 1812. The Mexican War and finally in the War for the Union of 1861. Their names and their descendants filled the highest stations in the gift of a free people. We now approach the name of one of this connection of whom we desire to take a brief notice. Major Laurence Taliapero born at Whitehall - King George County Virginia February 28th 1794 - he was the fourth son of James Garnett Taliapero and Melchiora Wishart an only daughter of the Rev. John Wishart of Perth Scotland - a true descendant of George Wishart the Cook of the Martyrs for conscience sake. - of his early youth but little of interest can be recorded, with the best tutors. How Samuel Southwell, Samuel C. Lewis and others of New Jersey he would play truant from school. His venerable mother knowing his habits and propensity, wisely decided to let the

wayward youth alone to his farming
inclinations. Raising her own child best -
at the age of 18. the war with Eng. lands-
discouraged Volunteers and soon found
himself with four other grown brothers duly
enrolled by the act of his patriotic Mother
on the 5th of August 1812 in a Volunteer
Company of Light Infantry under Captain
Meriwether Taliaferro. Subsequently appoin-
ted to the 35th Regular Infantry - during his
three month service his animosity to Eng. lands
became so fixed, and apparent that his
friends persuaded if ^{he} would go to a famous
~~School~~ Grammar School at Induculum in
charge of Doctor Valentine Peyton late of the
U.S. Navy for eight months, he should have
a commission in the Regular Army. This proposition
was cheerfully acceded to, and carried into
immediate effect by his parents at the close of
the period indicated his preceptor stated
officially his English education to be perfectly
satisfactory - and ^{he} was duly appointed an
Ensign in the 15th Regt. U.S. Infantry on the 2^d of
June 1813. and ordered to Belle Fontaine in
Missouri. On being promoted to a Second
Lieutenancy on the 13th of August following -
was directed to proceed to, and report to
Colonel John Campbell at Chillicothe Ohio
for the Recruiting Service. This order was as
promptly obeyed as a six hundred miles
of ride on horse back would allow. here an
order was given to repair to Cincinnati and
open a rendezvous for recruits for his Regiment.
he met old Officers of Rifles already in this
field before him - never the less ~~he~~ nothing

doubted - ^{he} applied to General Harrison
for funds to go to work on. The General -
examined the rough youth closely for a moment
saying "You look young Sir - but I think you
have spirit and energy." O'Fallon gave the
Lieutenant a check on Pay Master Hunt for
five hundred dollars - in ten days another
five hundred was estimated for which seemed
to surprise no one as much as the case of
Pay Master who said "You use money fast &
I don't see your name on the Register" perhaps
not was the reply - but you know surely the
Commanding General's signature. This ended
further suspicion doubtless as nothing more
was heard from the gentleman.
There arose a jealous feeling, and rivalry -
between the Infantry, and Rifles. The Rifles
Officer was going a head too rapidly for the
old Veterans. The Citizens enjoyed this rivalry
in securing men, and the boy men great
encouragement. There arrived in Cincinnati
in March 1814. Thirty seven British Officers Prisoners
of War destined for close confinement in the
Penitentiary at Frankfort Ky. Lieut Taliaferro
was detailed to guard these Prisoners until
they could be forwarded under a proper
guard. This responsible, and delicate duty was
discharged to the satisfaction of Genl Harrison
Early in March the venerable John Oliver
Symmes died the Father in law of General H.
and his remains escorted to North Bend in
a keel boat prepared for that purpose
and there interred in the family Cemetery.
about this period a Court Martial had
sentenced a Soldier to be shot for desertion

on the day indicated for his execution. The troops were paraded at New Port, the Frenchman escorted by the guards to the place indicated and placed on his coffin. Things looked serious and solemn - but at the moment of Ready - The Reprieve came and all breathed free again - none more so than the hardened deserter from his Colonel. On the 4th of April 1874 he received an order to turn over his recruits to Captain Bayson, and report to Charles Penna, and report to Major Clamson. On arriving at this point, found an order to proceed at once to Brunswick N. Jersey. The Head Quarter of the 15th Infantry. The journey from Cincinnati to this latter point of destination was performed by him & sent thirty on horse back.

Reporting to Capt. H. Johnson Superintendent of the Recruiting Service - was speedily ordered to proceed to Monmouth. Co. Court house (the old battle field of the Revolution) for the recruiting service. Here he unexpectedly met with violent opposition from the anti war Federalists but he persevered manfully, obtaining a few men - immediately ^{after} the 4th of July was ordered ~~was ordered~~ to head quarters, and assigned to a company under Capt. Keen with Lieut. Stansbury and Harbison and marched to Fort Erie Upper Canada - and joined Brown's 2^d Division of the Army. After the Siege

was raised carried by the force of
 the 17th of September 1814. upon the Enemy.
 and the Battle of Cooks Mills on Lyon
 Creek fought and both under General
 Biddle. General Izard of the 1st Division
 with fresh troops relieved the 2^d Division
 which covered the Niagara and was
 marched to Winter Quarters at Sacketts
 Harbor New York. In November he was
 again detailed for the Recruiting Service
 and ordered to Brunswick New Jersey.
 A few days after reporting again to
 Captain Johnson. The U.S. Commissioners
 at Ghent had been heard from, and
 in due season the news of peace reached
 the Government. When our young soldier
 returned on furlough to his family
 home in Virginia. Stopping at Trenton
 to see his old friend, and Father the
 Hon. Samuel L. Southard, he was urged
 by him to remain to witness the trial
 of the Great Steam boat Question between
 Ogden & Fulton before the Legislature
 of the State. Here he saw & heard men
 of profound intellect Thomas Adis Emerson
 Sampson. Hopkinson. Ogden. Fulton
 and Southard. He saw Emerson take
 Southard by the hands with a most
 cordial shake - saying - "Sir I congratulate
 you on having made the best speech
 in a bad cause that is ever ^{was} my
 pleasure to hear. You are a rising man."
 after this short delay he reached his
 home in safety but in impaired health
 from long and severe exposure in

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in the line of his duty. Yet with the high
commendations of his Superiors. The war having
closed, and the reduction of the Army from
65 to 10 Regiments expected he found himself
nevertheless retained with his full rank
of 1st Lieut in the 3^d Regiment of Infantry -
with orders to repair to Detroit Michigan
where he joined his Regiment under Colonel
John Miller. While in Camp at Spring
Wells below Detroit was selected for a
Separate Command on Gros Isle opposite
Malden. Whilst exercising this Com-
mand the frequent desertion of the
Royal Scots to his Post during the winter
of 1815. 16. induced the British Town Major
to impugn the Conduct of his Command
asserting that his Majesty's Soldiers were
entirely to desert by the American Soldiers
which statement on his own responsi-
bility induced this Officer ^{Simon Salaperno} to Cross over
to Malden and call on the Town Major
in Command of the British forces. He
found several officers present and at
once made his visit known and that
was to say to his Britanic Majesty's Officer
in Command that he found a number
of the Soldiers deserters from the American
Army in Malden and some of these
employed as Mechanics in the shops
of the town. he hoped that ^{British} Officers
did not connive at such conduct so un-
worthy the enjoined observance of the
two Nations. here was a pause. The
Yankee Officer had struck the first
blow. and "John Bull" had not a

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word in reply as to the desertion of a
large number of the Royal Scots. his
report of this rise to Genl McCleomb in
Command of the Dept at Detroit -
was much commended at the time. -
The approach of Spring caused a
disposition of the troops comprising
the 3^d & 5th Regiments of Infantry in order
to Garrison the several Posts on the Upper
Lakes. Companies A. & B. 3^d Infantry was
ordered to Chicago to relieve 1st Kearborn
attached to B. 1st Infantry Capt Bradley.
he reached Chicago and landed with
the Command July 4th 1816. and went
into Lewis. throwing up precautionary -
breast works. planting Cannon &c. here
as Apt. Dr Martin and Ordnance Officers
he superintended the reconstruction of
the Post which had been destroyed
by the Potawatamies, and other Indians
in August 1812. and nearly all the
Garrison massacred so hostile were
the Indians, and others that the Dr
Martin had to move daily with an
armed party for the security of the men
exposed in filling, and heaving timber for
the Post. by the Spring of 1817. the Troops
were on half rations but there was no
complaint. In August of this year the
Apt. Dr Martin Salaperno - was ordered
to Chillicothe Ohio to recruit under
Major Larrabee. but not long after
completing with the Ordnance directed
to march 130 men in Company with Lt
C. L. Coys, and Evans. to fill up the

The 3^d Regiment at Fort Howard Green
 Bay - on the March to Samsky -
 Lt Col Cass in Command - the President
 of the United States being then on his
 tour through the West was met in the
 "Long woods" beyond Mansfield - a
 consultation as to how the President
 should be received by the troops was
 called by Mr Cass in Command -
 Lieut Polk and Evans - said
 it was not wholly proper all that was
 requisite was to form the men in line at
 shoulder arms, and as the President
 approached cause the music to play - hail
 to the Chief or Hail Columbia, and present
 arms - This opinion seemed not to suit the
 pompous & self conceited commanders -
 who said he had no notice of the approach
 of the President and should not act in
 the matter - The Rear Guard being a
 separate command for the day under
 Lieut Polk - Cass consented to let
 him use his pleasure with the same -
 and the President as he should have
 been was duly honored with a prompt
 and hearty salute - which caused his
 steed to shy, but ^{the} old cock that of the day
 of Trenton & Princeton was clothed with a
 low bow - first following in the rear
 came General Meade and Governor Cass -
 when Lt Cass was made to feel his own
 inferiority in point of military etiquette -
 The Regiment continued its march to
 Lehigh - here to the surprise of Lt Polk

Leut. Col. turned over the command to him with orders to hire transport and repair to Regiments Head Quarters at Green Bay - as the season was far advanced and no time to be lost in useless delay the detachment was taken to Macinac in the Schooner Menomoe, and taken in the Jackson to Green Bay and Chicago - reaching the latter Port on the 17th of November after a storm of three days in which the vessel was near being lost on the coast of Lake Michigan.

Leut. Palafors was noticed for his proficiency in Military tactics in the Battalion and evolutions of the line and so reported on the Confidential Inspection reports by Inspector General Wool in July 1818. when he left ^{his post} on a four months sick leave for the Beecher Springs in Pennsylvania - on his recovery he reported on to Washington City. when he paid his respects to the President, his nation friends, and connections - here the President was pleased to say - he wished Lt. P. to resign his position in the Army - he had heard a good report of him - he was above his rank - promotion was too slow - that he wanted his services in a responsible civil capacity where he would have more command of his time - go home to your Mother, and remain until you hear from me - he was gratefully and politely thanked - on the 27th of March following the Secretary of War John C. Calhoun -

forwarded to his address at Freeburg. During
 the appointments of Agent for Indian
 Affairs at St. Peter near the Falls of
 St. Anthony. - The Office was duly accepted
 and ~~the~~ he after filing his Bonds
 left to join the expedition under
 Colonel Leavenworth already ordered
 with his Regiment the 5th Infantry to
 take Post at the junction of the St. Peter
 and Mississippi. The Agent however
 returned to St. Louis, and reported to
 Governor William Clark Superintendent
 of Indian Affairs and later Comman-
 -ion of Lewis to the Columbia River.
 From St. Louis he travelled with
 the Winabago Agent M. Baldwin as
 far as Prairie du Chien - here falling in
 with a Government Boat Proceeding
 on this slow mode of conveyance in compa-
 any with an escort of Indians - headed
 by Paknaka - or the Pike - some times called
 the "Burn" a one eyed Indian a great friend
 of the Americans in the war of 1812, who
 described many interesting scenes on the
 Mississippi and on board the American
 Gun Boat - he possessed both cunning
 and much intelligence - his remarks
 upon the conduct of the Indian & British
 traders who instigated them to acts of
 hostility against the United States - which
 confirmed the truth of much that had
 been previously stated in the public prints.
 It may be remarked in this connection
 that the new Agent was not only -

apparently were increased by the Agents and Traders, and Citizens of Prairie du Chien but rather obsequiously so by the former - in fact these felt their guilt being in the main yet British Subjects, among these was Joseph Rallete Agent of the American Fur Company who seemed most desirous of feeling the pulse of the Agents by many proffered acts of kindness, and civilities all which was understood and properly appreciated - The Agents proceeded onward to his Post visiting the Belair, Neabisha River being at the head of Lake Pepin and John Cordes on Lake Crow - advising the Chiefs of each Town as to the nature of his appointment and the reasons why the President had sent troops to erect a Fort at St. Peter, and location of an Agent to conduct the affairs of the Lacota Nation in connection with the Chiefs of the Seven "Fires" - That apparently these men might seem to them young but that he had an old soldiers head, and an honest heart, determined to cause the Indian Trade to be well conducted for their benefit on principles of equal justice to all - Jean Baptiste Faribault, and family had gone through by land in charge of Colonel Leavenworth horses, and cows. an old Trader licensed as far back as 1810 by General Wilkinson commanding at Mackinac - He was to this Canadian Colonel Leavenworth in August 1820 in the name of his wife Pelagee Faribault - Peter Isbarn was conveyed in an unauthorized ^{con} conveyance

as was 400 acres including Menota
 to Huron Campsite and 400 acres to
 Margaret Campsite Opposite Fountain Cave.
 This Convention a truly unfortunate one
 was clandestinely convened, and held
 at Camp "Cold Water" while the Agency
 Agent was in the quarters of the old
 Can Government west of the Minnesota.
 So injurious to the future tranquility of
 the Past was this treaty viewed by the
 Command Officers of the Army present and
 the Agent that he adopted the Secretary
 of War on the subject and the result
 was the President declared to lay the
 paper before the Senate, and the Agent
 directed (in consequence of the President's
 decision) to notify those persons claiming
 any reservations under the Leavenworth
 Convention that there would not be
 considered. Official notice was at once
 served by Scott Campbell on Pelagie Fair-
 bank. Huron Campsite, and Margaret
 Campsite. General Cass in his Tour ¹⁸²⁰
 through the upper Mississippi in August 1820
 seemed after one Council with the
 Indians convinced by the Agent at his
 request to understand the weakness of
 Colonel Leavenworth in desiring to be
 considered both Commanding Officer, and
 Indian Agent who stated to the Agents
 that his Leavenworth's course would
 spoil the Indians. The reply of the
 Agent was the Colonel will be soon
 relieved when his Self Concocted & Vanity
 will be at an end. which was

effected by the arrival of that excellent
 Officer Colonel Josiah Snelling. who
 on being presented to the Chiefs and
 head men of the Sioux. Said "I am pleased
 to take you by the hands. I shall have
 much to do. You have an excellent
 Agent sent you by the President your
 Great Father. He is harmonious in all
 things touching your Nation. I shall
 support him when he needs it. You may
 feel secure in his friendship and my
 friendship as long as your conduct shall
 merit it. My troops are all friendly to your
 people. Tell them so. From this time
 forwards there was great harmony of
 action, and concert between the Civil
 and Military. The Agent went to work
 to neutralize British influence and
 to give efficient organization to the fur
 trade, and secure the confidence of the
 surrounding tribes of Sioux & Cheyenne -
 a truce to their continued wars had
 also^{to} be met in a manner least calcu-
 lated to wound their martial pride.
 In conforming to the laws & Regulations
 to which the attention of ^{all} persons then
 engaged or might be engaged in
 Commerce with the Indians. it was
 apparent that the Instructions of the
 President of 1818 to General Leass
 Enoffered Director of Indian Affairs at
 Detroit. were found to admit of a
 latitude of construction as wide as
 misconception which caused the
 Executive Officers to feel the need of

of more stringent laws & more clearly
 defined powers. Yet through all this
 mist of uncertainty the Agent moved
 on steadily in the performance of his
 arduous, responsible, and delicate
 duties. The conduct of the Indians of
 Uabeshan Bands in forcing a trader
 from Green Bay (Augustin Guegnon) from
 his Trading Post near Black River -
 was so gross an outrage that Agent
 Menard at Prairie du Chevre on a visit -
 Agent Baelven being absent - engaged
 Thomas McChain with his horse and sleds
 and at once proceeded to the scene of
 the offence - to watch the movements
 of the Agent. Alexis Bailly a Clerk, &
 a half breed Ottawa of Canada was
 dispatched by the Agent of the
 Fur Coy - to apprise J. B. Mayrann
 of his approach & to Cash any articles
 contraband and finally to be in all
 readiness for the visit of the Agent.
 Bailly had obtained a passport
 from the Major Focle in command
 at Fort Crawford - but the Agent
 paid no respect to this authority
 but revoked it and ordered the
 Clerk back to Prairie du Chevre -
 It was evident that Joseph Rottier
 first instigated the Chief Uabeshan
 to acts of hostility against M. Guegnon
 an independent trader - it was at
 this date February 1822 - that the

Agent was enabled to sound the
 the ~~clashes~~ of the true policy of the
 Agents of the so-called Am Fur Company
 # the promptings of the Agent on the
 expedition refused to be brought down
 the Yelung of Tray-Street heart and
 Branches upon his devoted head -
 he was called nothing but a foolish
 boy, hot headed, and not fit to
 govern these Indians, it was all
 shame to send such a man to the
 country - This was British bile, and
 British spleen - all for want of the
 monopoly of the fur trade which the
 Agents of the Company were determined
 to have - if it could be accomplished
 by the acts of intimidation - but within
 a few months it was found that their
 threats and falsifications had no
 effect on the Agent but he went on
 honestly and perseveringly in the
 discharge of every public duty - again
 it was seen and felt that he was
 gaining the ears of all Indians most
 rapidly - it was objected that the
 detention of the Leaders at the Entry
 of Winnipeg in the disturbed state
 of the Upper Country was wrong - and
 suits would be brought for this unjust
 detention of their Outfits - The main
 object of the Agents, and traders of the
 Fur Company meant more than this -
 The Agent must be bribed to them,
 or forced to it - the former

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was

Tried, and failed. The latter fell
with it. The organization of the Columbia
Fur Company by Titton & Co. produced floods
of vituperation of the Agent, and of the
views and acts of this Company in their
Commercial views and Citizenship -
Old British traders declared that the
Agent was licensing foreigners to trade
for this new conclusion that trading
Posts were secretly or clandestinely
established for them that Forts were
called by various names and traders
forced to build in Spanish Stockades -
all this, and more was said than
it is prudent to record. Senior Officers
of the Army were appealed to on
Prance du Chien fees too on far things
with wine on the lees - until it was
opined by J.R. of John Jacob Astors
Company - that any American Officers
could be bought up for less than
a Quarter loads of Winos. Charges
were preferred against the Agent
the Government, supposing where
there was so much smoke there surely
must be some fire. These charges
numerous as they were were promptly
met, and the designing knaves most
signally defeated - previous to these
interesting assaults - General Coss was
appealed to - to use his influence to
have the Agent removed or sent to
some other Station. The reply was -
Mayer Salaperno has power.

friends at the head of the Govern-
 ment. who had great confidence in
 his incorruptible integrity and full
 faith in all his acts. It is true the
 Agent while he did nothing as a
 man of honor to interfere against the
 interests of any individuals or Company
 in the trade - he determined to put
 a stop to the introduction of Ardent
 Spirits into the Indian Country and
 hence the many seizures made, and
 destruction of this Contraband article -
 he had witnessed the Barrels rolled
 out on various occasions at Prairie
 du Chien, and the consequent murders
 of many of its Citizens - as well as of the
 poor Indian - after a lapse of years
 the Intercourse laws became more stringent
 and the officers of the Indian Department
 found themselves in possession of more
 power for coercion than was needful
 to suppress the introduction of Whiskey.
 Traders were furnished with the copies
 of these new powers - Yet Alex. Bailey
 determined - contrary to advice to try
 the nerve of the Agent to see if he dare
 seize his outfit of \$20,000 worth of
 goods, and six barrels of Whiskey for
 his outfit from "New Hope" then
 now Menota. The seizure was made
 and Mr Bailey though a good trader
 refused a renewal of his license -
 the Agent being made satisfied of the
 non approval of Bailey's perverseness -
 The goods were subsequently released

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and the Whiskey returned to the
Company's Agent at Prairie du Chien
This action brought Ramsay Crooks
up to the Agency who could not
but approve the Agent's decision
and he proposed to supply Baileys-
Post by the appointment of Henry
H. Sibley Esq. to the vacancy this the
Agent acceded to at once and cheerfully
as he knew the family formerly at
Detroit. Mr Sibley soon arrived
and entered upon his duties as -
Mendota - after this there was no
more questioning of the acts of the Agents
at least by Mr Sibley. - It should
have been before noted that as the
war had not entirely ceased between
the Chippewas and Sioux, and the
Sacs & Foxes and Sioux - the Agent -
obtained the sanction of the President
in 1824 to take a delegation of
Sioux Chippewas and Menomonees
to the Seat of Government led by the
Chief Little Crow a man of good
mind and intelligence - the object
being to cause a convocation of all
the Tribes at Prairie du Chien in order
to define more fully their respective -
boundary lines - Two of this delegation
Wabishaw Chief of all the Sioux and
Wanata of the Yanktons of Big Stone
Lake were prevailed on by the Agents
at Prairie du Chien to go no further - that
they would get sick and die. The
Little Crow in a short pointed speech

Said - My friends you can do as you please I am no coward, nor can my ears be pulled about by evil Councils. We are here and should go on to do some good for our nation. I have taken our Father here by the Coak-Tail and will follow him into his great nation to see and take by the hands our great American Father. My mind is made up live or die." This Chief then turned to the Agents taking his hands in his said use let us be off to join the "Red Heads" Parsha Sha - General William Clark - The Mississippi being out of its banks, and swift - St. Louis was soon reached where the Superintendants had already convened the Sac & Foxes, Iowa & Pankashaws, and the whole departed for Washington - below Louisville and near Salt River Marcees on the Cloud one of the Sioux delegation (who had had a bad dream as reported) let himself down from the stern of the Boat, and dropped into the River - was supposed to be drowned but to the surprise of all made his way back to St. Louis - but only to be murdered at "Old Charles" Mispourie by some of the Sac Indians there encamped - This very unfortunate occurrence did for a moment impede the progress the delegation. Washington was soon reached and speedy interview with the President and Secretary of War had and business run in train - It here that a Treaty with the Sac & Foxes confirmed.

The grant of Lands in the fort of the
 Mississippi, and Des Moines River to the
 half breeds of their Nation This
 grant was only to begin at the head
 of Des Moines Rapids - but Cupidly
 with a latitude of Construction - sets
 this line on point of beginning as high
 up as old Fort Madison - The delegation
 having speedily accomplished their
 business, satisfactorily - The Sioux left
 for home by way of New York - here
 the Chiefs wished to pay a visit with
 their Interpreter William Dickson a
 son of the celebrated Colonel Robert
 Dickson - who headed the Indian
 against the United States in 1812 ^{War}
 This was not objected to - but on the
 homeward by way of the Lakes - The
 crew on being asked how he had
 procured a fine double barrel gun
 and other nice things - said to the
 Agents unreservedly - that the Medicine
 man (Peter) he went to see in N York
 got him to sign a paper gave him
 the article he saw and further prom-
 -ised him a large boat load of goods
 to be sent the next summer - 1825
 That Boat did arrive just as the
 preparations were being made for the
 great assembling of the tribe at Rose
 Duchien - but only a Box was left
 for Colonel Robert Dickson the old
 called on the Agent expressing great
 disappointment even mortification
 The Agent assumed the responsibility

and Thomas the Colonel's box - There were a few pieces of goods - Calicos &c sent as a present to the Colonel highly esteemed Lady (an old Sydney) by Mr Peters - looking further his dearly letter was discovered also a parchment copy of the grant to Capt Carr by the Snake and Turtle - No witnesses - The goods were forwarded to Mrs Decker - but the letter and the grant held for future use - this letter of the Rev Mr Peters is still among the official papers of the Agent but the parchment grant was sent to the Hon James Bar over their Secretary of war for file in his department -

The year 1825 - was one to be long-remembered it was one of trial and of incidents - The Chippewa was assembled too early by the traders of the North under the authority of Agent Schoolcraft would not proceed under Chapman, and Loole or Kingly for twenty days until the Agents at St Peters had to furnish a safe guards down the River which was done by - sending Confidential Sou with each detachment - A well a half breed Chippewa was dispatched for the Flat-mouth on the Steen lake & other bead men from Sandy Lake - A well returned with other Indians but the Flat-mouth though weighing some 220 lbs reported sick, and unable to perform the journey - The Sou from Lakes Quiparee and Big Stone on the St Peters having arrived at the Entry - the Agent organized his delegation of three hundred and eighty five

Siouxs & Chippewas including Interpreters and attendants - This large body reached Prairie du Chien without the slightest accident or difficulty with the Chippewas their old enemies - each remembering the the pointed Councils of their Agents. There was a halt before entering the town at the "Painted Rocks" where after attending to their toilets and appointments of soldiers to drop the columns of boats the grand entry was made with drums beating - many flags flying with incessant discharges of small arms - all Prairie du Chien was drawn out with other Delegations already arrived to witness the display and landing of this ferocious looking body of true - Savages. - Gov Cass, and Mr Schonecraft had arrived the Agent reported to the only Commr present Mr Cass and was informed where he should encamp. That position already been selected and the Indians directed to pitch their tents near that of the Agent & his Interpreters. -

Agent Schonecraft trusting to the traders and not on his own personal exertions as above his dignity found himself with only one hundred, and fifty Chippewas - some hundreds having returned home - General Clark, and his staff soon formed and after a consultation between the Commissioners the place of meeting of the tribes in Council designated the work in hand began in earnest. It was during this treaty the Agent for the Sioux felt the inveterate hostility of the

Am Fur Cops traders from the North & elsewhere - The Chippewas especially - those who had known their friend from 1820 - yearly visiting the Post & Fur Selling kept the Agent constantly informed of the Secret Councils called to detach them from his camp and join their friends - but all in vain they would not be detached - hence the unnecessary, and foolish attempts to convince men who would not be convinced - Holiday a drunken Scotch trader, was selected to bully, and annoy the Agent - he soon found the Sioux Agent would neither be bullied nor annoyed by him - nor any one of his associates - General Cass was induced to summon the Sioux Agents before the Commissioners on the plea that a young Sioux had brandished his war Club over the heads of a young Chippewa near the Fort Crawford gate - and that one rush act might produce at once a scene of bloodshed and you had better send the Chippewas of your camp to that of Agent Schonecraft -

The Agent summoned thus suddenly - said in reply - who is the man that brought this report & where is the Indian threatened - response Mr Holiday and here on there is the Indian - in a moment the Agent saw the rascal, and said Gentlemen of the Commission you are here to treat with the several tribes present - that is the duty assigned you - my duty is to see the Sioux - present on the treaty grounds -

morning, and evening at the Sound
 of the Canon - you shall not be disap-
 pointed - but as for changing the
 the location of the 28 Chepewa chiefs
 and braves, from one encampment
 to another at the behest of Mr. Holiday -
 through his pleasant tool - a ~~canon~~^{screen} false
 pretense set on foot, doubtless by Agent
 Schoolcraft, for whom the Chepewas
 have no respect for they seldom see
 him from his remoteness at Fort S. M. and
 the Sioux Agent respectfully
 declines the change proposed and
 holds himself responsible for all
 consequences resulting from his decision.
 The Commissioners on reflection found
 the Sioux Agent too well booked up
 on Indian Affairs that he knew
 what he was doing as a power of duty
 and self respect. So Mr. Holiday was
 forced both he, and his falsifying
 tool - before the close of the Treaty -
 there were several natural deaths -
 The Sioux Agent's expenses for his care
 reclamation of 385. souls, was \$812.00
 that of Agent Schoolcraft with only
 150 or 70 Indians, was \$4,700. - even
 canoes, and paddles were charged
 for in which ^{the} Chepewas transported
 themselves to the Treaty. Holiday Cole
 Chapman, and Ling by fur traders
 well understood accounts making
 against the United States, and Mr
 Schoolcraft knew how to certify -

Representations upon this head to the
 Department at Washington, very plausible,
 doubly, indeed, the Sec of War, as
 new hands to direct Thos L McKenny.
 Chief Clerk in the Indian Office to
 instruct the Agent at St. Peters to have
 nothing to do with the Chippewas of the
 Upper Mississippi and its tributaries
 and to direct them to cease all visits
 to Fort Snelling - and adhere to the
 Agency of Mr Schoolcraft. The Agents
 in duty bound informed the Chippewas
 in June 1826 but these Indians said
 "Yes" seemingly acquiescent but still con-
 tinued to dip their Canoes in the Mississippi
 and drift down to the Agency on the
 St. Peters. Other more hostile instruction
 and on the 27th of May 1827 after a
 full explanation of department orders
 from Washington in Council many
 violent protests - The Devil entered
 the latter, and nine of the Chippewas
 were killed and wounded. So much
 the thoughtless and unwise decision
 on a matter which had better have
 been left to the foresight & discretion
 of the Indians best friends. It was
 known and frequently reported to
 Washington by disinterested Military-
 Commanders of Fort Snelling - that the
 Agents however hostile the two Tribes
 held their entire confidence. A word
 from him to Kill or let live was
 law with them - Indians like white
 men will consult their own ease

and convenience - the Post of St. Neely was located at a very important as well as convenient point in the Indian Country for all the Tribes - the Chippewas refused to visit the Scotch St. Mary - because of its great distance from their homes - further more starvations starved them in the fall going and returning with their families - whereas 30 - 40 - 60 - 80 - 100 and 200 miles mostly by water, landed them keeping good fishing and hunting steadily at the American Fort. For many were British frontier Indians Ojibwe the friend of Pike over Red Lake, and Bands of Sandy Lake often spoke of his having told them that the Americans would soon lay build a Fort high up the Mississippi and he told the truth for they had come to see it - In order to secure some degree of safety to the South Yankton and Wahpeton Sioux and others on the plains the Agent was directed to form a proper delegation of these people in 1830. to meet their tormentors the Sacs & Foxes again at Prairie du Chien in order to a more formal and definite time between their respective claims to ownership of soil - as a young Chippewa had been recently shot near Laramie's Trading Post on the St. Peters - the Sioux were made by their traders quite reluctant to

to accept the invitation of Colonel Taylor departed one of the Commissioners - but as the Agent who was never known to make a promise - tell a lie, or deceive his children in all his harsh ^{expressions} ~~expressions~~ with them - Colonel Taylor was informed that he might expect the Indians, and their Agents within a few days, on reaching Prairie du Chien the Colonel had left substituting Colonel Willoughby Morgan leaving ^{with} that officer a letter for the Agent on his arrival - in which he said that which the Agent was sorry he had known for years back - viz. "Take the American Fur Company in the aggregate, and they ^{were} ~~are~~ the greatest Scoundrels the world ever knew" They were not only at war with all independent traders but set their faces sternly against all missionary efforts to civilize in touch, and even persecute the benighted Indian on the formation of agricultural farms for the poor as game rapidly decreased - No. the Indian must hunt for their gain, and their gain alone - The President of the American Fur Company John Jacob Astor had his medals struck similar to those of the respective Presidents of the United States for circulators among the Indian Tribes with which the Agents of his company were supposed to make, and recognize chiefs of their own - the object which the Agent was at no loss to conjecture - he ~~selected~~ ^{obtained} one of these, after seeing

28-

one suspended from the neck of -
Wah-ma-de-sapas a Sub Chief of the
Wah-pa-coo-Ta Sioux - a remark from
the Agents caused him to take it from
the side of the American medal - saying
Alexander Scribner had obtained
it for him - in reply he stated
before that the Treaty of 1830 ceded
the ^{ground} "Neutral" on the Iowa from the Miss-
issippi twenty miles wide to the second
upper forks on the River he reserved
also a tract of land for the permanent
home of the half breed relations of the
Medawwa Kauten Sioux extending
from the "Baru" at Red Wings village
head of Lake Pepin down the course
of the Mississippi to Rock River thirty two
miles. and back in the country a
distance of fifteen miles.

The Agents of the Company American
at Prairie du Chien with their
usual pertinacity pressed the Com-
missioners to incorporate an article in
this treaty for their benefit - Wah-sha
was the true put forth to serve their
avidity - but they signally failed -
The Commissioners honest men could
not recognize a palpable wrong.

A British Officer Captain Patterson
accompanied the Agents from this
Treaty to Fort Snelling he had come
from South America on his way to
England and desired to see what
he could of our wild Indians
of the North West that might enlarge
his report to Lord Hill Chief Com.

= Mander of the British Army - This Officer did not tarry long but left after a few weeks seemingly gratified with his reception by Capt. Gale Commanding and all others of Officers & Citizens of the Post - In 1831. The Agent visited the Upper Minnesota holding a Convention at Traverse des Sioux at a very small cost explanatory of the treaty of 1830 - which was without a word of dissent formally approved, and ratified.

It was here that the services of Joseph Renville of Lac du Bonhomme, and Calvin Campbell proved of inestimable value to the success of the expedition - a similar force and for a similar purpose had gone under Col. Thos. L. McKenny and Gov. Cass to the South Sth Maine - which expended \$26,000 uselessly as the result never proved beneficial beyond laborious verbose reports, the Indian Country was more or less adjutailed East of the Mississippi but west all was tranquility. - In the midst of many perplexities Sibley handled and alone the Agent was assisted by many testimonials of well done good & faithful service - he was secure in the confidence of all honest men Jackson was at the head of the Government and the Agent had been one of his old soldiers - His Eagle eye saw all things, small, and great his written message to the Little Crow. Chief of all the Sioux - showed he perfectly understood Indian wants, and Indian Character - "When your Agent speaks

My Son - I have received your
 Talk at the hands of your Agent, Mr
 Juliapero. When he speaks open your
 Ears - and listen for you hear my words -
 You say truly "we have both been -
 Warriors. The Loan Club is again
 buried deep in the ground. I am
 again your friend and the friend
 of your Nation. ~~Let~~ us smoke the
 same pipe and eat out of the same
 dish - War is hateful to any Nation -
 Keep the "Seven fires" of your Nation
 in peace and good order, and I
 will try, and do the same with the
 Twenty Seven fires of my Nation -
 Make your wants known to your
 faithful Agent - and you ^{will} hear from
 your true friend speedily! -
 Doctor John Gale of the Army writing -
 from Council Bluffs - on the Missouri
 says - "The whole Army on this frontier
 unite in the belief that the Government
 has for once an honest efficient agent
 for Indian Affairs - You know my dear
 fellow that I am too proud to flatter
 any man - yet it is refreshing to see
 the Indian Department rapidly brought
 out of chaos and made as highly
 respectable branch of the Government -
 You need not be surprised ere long
 to see ex Ministers ex Governors ex -
 Judges and Members of Congress - seeking
 for admission into it - I tell you my
 old Mrs. mother, and friends you are

a most fortunate civil appointment for the Government. Though I was one among many that regretted the resignation of one whose turn of mind seemed so well adapted to the Army. Colonel Kearney and other Officers now enroute for your Post can give you an account of Indian affairs in this quarter - much ^{real} ~~gaps~~ but nothing "as to results."

Previous to 1835 the Agent imported the President to assign a Sub-Agent for the Chippewas of the Upper Mississippi and its tributaries urging as a reason the removal of the Sault Ste Marie and the difficulties of the route - after some time a Mr George S. Johnson a Chippewa half blood and brother in law of Henry R. R. Schoucraft and Agent for the Chippewas was appointed and unfortunately located at La Pointe Lake Superior - he proved of unsteady habits - consequently his people had no respect for him - after him a Mr Seymour or Simon a discharged Soldier secured the situation and he like his predecessor drank more whiskey than the Indians. Major Seallam was offered the appointment but after an investigation of the general conduct of the Indians and the character of their traders declined to serve - General Miles Winery and of Illinois accepted and entered on his duties - Not withstanding these efforts to be relieved from the vices of these people they still kept up (at all risks) their habits of drinking

Then found the Agent and the Military
 Post of Fort Snelling - in 1837 the Agent was
 instructed on the basis of a Special Report
 by him, ^{made} in 1836 - to the War Office touching
 the purchase of all the lands owned by the
 Sioux East of the Mississippi - was directed to
 organize a full, and well authorized -
 delegation to led by him to the Seat
 of Government - at any moment to be
 indicated by General Henry Bouse the
 Suprt of Indian Affairs - Subsequently
 Miles Vineyard was despatched up the
 Mississippi to invite the Chippewas to a
 Council near Fort Snelling - and the
 Agent requested to see that a full
 delegation from all points should be
 present, and further that he prepare
 a site for the Treaty - and be in readiness
 to receive the Commissioners General - William
 R. Smith of Penn^a and General Dodge
 of Illinois - there was a busy time - for
 soon we had 1200 Chippewas and in the
 vicinity of the Post some 395 Sioux - The
 greater part being still out on the Spring
 hunt - this unexpected Convocation of
 Red Men - brought also a host of expectants
 in anticipation of some benefit from the
 Indians - interested fur traders and Agents -
 not a few - The Commissioner arriving with
 his ^{staff} - there were Quarters at the Agency -
 and a general Table provided by the
 family of the Agent, the Treaty opened
 and was closed but not without some
 stirring incidents - and considerable excite-
 ments - The Agent had business at his
 Office some seventy yards from the

Treaty grounds when Hercules L. Bourman
 and Henry H. Sebley entered the Agency Office
 in seeming by great haste asked for a
 sheet or two of letter paper on which to
 make an A/C. Bourman pers. men.
 The Agent left having taken his P. T. W.
 When in a few minutes Bourman came
 and laid the account before the Secretary
 Mr. Bancroft (it should be duly
 noted that the Treaty had been written
 out in extens, and ready for the
 signatures of the parties) Commissioners
 looked at this after thought-
 after of five thousand dollars he told
 Interpreter Peter Quinn to ask the Indian
 if their claim was just for the mill
 on Chipewa. The response was no we
 had no good of this mill - that the
 Sioux had - had all the benefits of it -
 but the Chief from the Chipewa River
 said for peace and to satisfy the men
 making the claim - he the Commissioner
 might give five hundred dollars.
 However the day, and others objected
 even to this sum and asked if
 they were to pay the whites for the
 erectors of a mill for their benefits.
 Nevertheless the \$5000 was interin-
~~ed~~ ⁱⁿ their treaty, and a ^{franchise} ~~right~~
 traded on the helpless means for the
 same parties in the name of Bruner
 who brought the mill from from
 Concession - held the mill & other
 improvements on a prescriptive right
 and possessed \$5000 in addition.

honest people seemed as though such palpable affronting, but this was not all - after \$58,000 had been embodied in the treaty to pay the encroachments of the Chippewas to their traders - we heard loud shouts, and gale in the direction of the Chippewa Camp near Ballus Trading Post at "Cold Spring". Word soon reached that Warren a trader had marshaled a large body of the Pillagers and were coming down like so many black devils to force the Commission to give to said Warren \$20,000 the weather was warm, the Sioux Agent standing near the table on the Commission's right hand Warren rushed in the Arbor and seated himself by one of the supporters fanning with hat - when the Indians soon followed rushing around, and through the Arbor the Agent drew one of his Pistols pointing at Warren - "Hole in the head said shoot my father - hole says - General Hodge wait a moment - very well Sir I only hold for the first over act of hostility - then I lose my life if needs be after the fall the clastards who has attempted to intimidate this Commission - but worse and more of it Warren got this special sum of \$20,000 - for himself entered into the Lewis Treaty much to the chagrin of the sensible thinking Indians and surprise

surprise of intelligent lookers on - a sufficient sum having already been set apart for the payments of all past debts of the tribe to their traders. This treaty over the Agent was directed by Gen Hodge to select a proper delegation of Sioux, and conduct them to Washington City as soon as practicable the Agent had first to get clear of some 1200 Chippewas without bloodshed and though there were but 80 men for duty under Capt. Martin Scott and many Sioux presents the Chippewas were sent off without much difficulty to their homes - after this happy result the Agent was left to talk freely with his own people on the invitation given by the President. Opposition was spoken of as coming from the Agents of the Fur Company, & others in their employ but the Agent organized his party a powerful one to counteract the designs of these officiously interested men who eat of their dainties, wipe their mouths and say I have committed no sin - but the hour of trial was approaching - no Indians were to leave the nation until a guarantee was given for the payments of their indebtedness to the traders. - The Agent was firm made no promises but said the delegation will be formed, and taken to Washington, the path was open for all interested claimants - he had nothing to do with the traders or their claims.

The Agent had written, and engaged a Steam Boat to be at the public landing on a certain day when he would be in readiness with one half of his delegation to take passage - Captain Safford was prompt the traders, and others as trustees in a 'coup d'Etat' - my Interpreter, and employees conducting them found on board the Steamship off Gleded the Steamer down Steam Stop for Big Thunder and his pipe bearers at Cross Belave passage to the old Belave of Red-Wing for Wab Koo la and his war chief thence to the Belave of Akabiska for this Chief and his friends Etage-nah - thus was the delegation of twenty six trustworthy men and firm of purpose secured, and the influence of the Agent shown to be more solid than that of the fur traders who had said the Government could not enter into any treaty with the Indian tribes without they used their influence - For Koo la was men at Galena with funds as before indicated while at St. Peters - here the Governor was told of the premature movement of the Agent altogether too soon - true much too soon for the Indian expectations of great things - The Superintendent was asked to give the delegation a Physician in the person of Doctor A. J. Crow - the Agent flatly refused saying the delegation from a combination was larger than

there was desirable - being composed some
 35 Indians - Interpreters, and attendants. -
 That the action of the Agents would in the
 sequel be fully sustained by the Author-
 ities at Washington on this Governor he
 might safely rely - who admitted the Agents
 to be firm - brave - determined in the
 face of danger - he had observed in and
 his influence no man could doubt -
 So the delegation proceeded prosperously
 on their voyage - arriving in the City
 of Washington without accident - Mr
 Secretary Poinsett was duly waited
 upon by the Agents with his children
 who were specially introduced to the
 President, and on presenting to the
 Secretary a Synopsis of such a Treaty
 as might be acceptable to all parties -
 to signing was commenced, at Pittsburgh
 Mr R. A. Wilson was added as some
 of the Indians had become indisposed
 from change of diet and water. - The
 Indians taking a particular fancy to
 Mr Wilson a gentleman of intelligence -
 and high Christian principles the Agents
 put him forward together with their
 real friends to settle all matters with
 Commissioner Poinsett - relative to the
 provisions of the Treaty then going on -
 The interests of the Fur Company was
 represented by Henry H. Sibley - Alexis Bailly
 Laframboise Mack - Francis Labarthe
 Alexander Faribault, & Oliver Faribault.
 The Treaty was signed on the 29th of
 September 1837 - The most ^{liberal} yet the most

safe and beneficial act they were even
 permitted to subscribe since - a most liberal
 being made for their indebtedness and for
 their half bene relations - for Agriculture
 Schools &c - Yet at the moment of signing
 Alexander Fairbairn & others left hoping
 to stop the chiefs from making their
 marks - but a word from the Agents - let
 them to thinking, and then really was
 promptly authenticated in presence
 of some 400 Spectators in both ~~St. Louis~~ ^{Saint Louis}
 Church - It was here and at this ere
 that Samuel B. Stambaugh and Allen's
 Bailey proposed Secretary Pousette to
 Convince to Polage Fairbairn Pikes
 Islands - or pay her \$10,000 - for that
 which was not worth \$500. and to which
 she had no earthly claim - The Secretary
 was so informed by the Agents as was
 his duty and this done he said nothing
 more - but the truth gave great offence
 to the furious Claim Agents - It has
 been said that Jean B. Fairbairn had
 been treated with severity - not so - after
 Leavenworth's fall he went on to Pikes
 Island and erected his cabins - but the
 next spring found him washed off
 the Island by the freshets - he crossed
 East of the Mississippi and again built
 his habitation on flat lands, and was
 again inundated for his want of a
 proper foresight - Two hundred yards
 back from the River would have
 left him a permanent home with
 none to molest or make him afraid

Mr Lambault was the first to give
 the true Legnification of the name of
 the Apem - Mah-sa-Buxa. Iron Cutter
 to the Indians by which he was
 ever after recognized throughout the
 tribes - having said thus much of
 the old Canadian traders - it is well
 to follow our delegation homeward -
 on reaching St Louis the Apem expen-
 ded \$4000 - with Choctaw and Co.
 the goods for each apem were packed
 and heavily marked after attending
 to this duty a Steamer ^{Rolla} was chartered
 and we commenced our voyage
 north all well and in fine spirits
 there was but one accident of
 note and that at Pine River - in
 stopping and starting a fire in one
 of boilers collapsed with a terrible
 report killing one man and a horse
 with other slight damage - it was
 most providential that the Boilers
 had passed out in front - had
 it been the rear the whole Delegation
 might have been scalded to death -
 after a little delay we ran up to
 Fort Snelling with one wheel the
 flanges of the other having been
 broken at the time of the explosion
 and landed safely on the 16th day of
 November 1837. Not a day too soon
 for the Ice made a few days there-
 after - Major Plympton being in
 Command gave us a hearty welcome
 saying I feared for you - and you
 were wise in all your plans.

In 1838 the Agent left for St Louis in order to facilitate the fulfillment of Treaty stipulations - contracts for horses, Oxen - Cows and Farming Utensils were made - returning Blacksmiths were engaged and locations designated as well as the Farmers seen in number for the respective releases - promptness of action in all that concerned his responsible Charge - gave assurance to the Indians that they had a friend - Commissioners W L Ewing and Colonel J L Pease with Colonel Spier arrived and found \$240,000 ready for their disbursement The Agent advised the payment of the several bands of Sioux at once the trading and half bloody thereupon for the reason that the Indians seeing such a large amount of their money going into the hands of others would create an unpleasant feeling in the minds of those who did not understand its meaning - but other interested Councils prevailed and the was as had been predicted, which caused the Agent daily, and almost hourly explanations until the Commissioners completed their duties after a fashion - having made a palpably partial distribution of the (\$100,000) one hundred and ten thousand to the half bloody under the Treaty of Sept 29th 1837 - The Agent as soon as the annuities arrived speedily paid of all the Indians in goods and Cash - some \$20,000 - Colonels Pease and Sperring

were disgusted with the drunken & dis-
 =tasteful conduct of their Associate Genl
 William L. H. Ewing of Illinois. The fur
 Company had tampered with this pleasant
 gentleman successfully. When the Agent
 declined his, and Saml S. Stambaugh
 applied to locate at the Mills at the Falls
 of St. Anthony on the U.S. Reserve west of the
 Mississippi (now Minneapolis) they became
 the Agents bitter enemies. So much so
 that said Ewing addressed a letter of
 charges against him to the President
 direct saying "Major Taliaferro had
 often talked of resigning his Station
 as Agent at St. Peters, and now no
 what he had been - was wholly un-
 qualified for the performance of
 duties satisfactorily to the Indians
 or the Government - asking at the same
 time the appointment of Samuel S.
 Stambaugh to the vacancy". The Agent
 having been called to Virginia on
 important private business was at
 Washington, and on visiting the Office
 of Indian Affairs on official business
 was warned by a "worthy Brother" of
 the fact of Ewing's communication
 to Mr. Canby - and that it had
 been by him referred to that Office.
 The President was called on forthwith
 and upon enquiring as his reputation
 reference of such a message was very
 frankly told yes. but as there was a
 design in it - the paper had been
 referred to the Secretary of War - where

it could be seen - but that the Agent's character as an officer in the Department was too well known and avouched for integrity of purpose "Successful Government of his" choice for more than twenty years - hence it ^{would} afford him the President's pleasure to again send my name to the Senate for confirmation. This was done - and the Agent received his Sixth Commission to the utter defeat of the machinations of his enemies and the astonishment of knowing traders - but to the joy and evident satisfaction of the Indians generally. The system of Indian trade had been for years and still was more oppressive apparently than ever seems ^{remediable}. The power of goods of all kinds suited to the wants of the Indians were enormous - and when a hunter could not pay up his credits in full during the fall and winter months - in the spring his guns, traps, knives, rats & skins and even his hutches was deemed a price of loan - of this hardship the Indians complained to the Agents of these traders and no ~~consequence~~ for this unfeeling heartless course of oppression deepened them of the means of supporting their families on their spring hunt - we do not this course of action was genuine

were the traders for there a few honorable exceptions - Francis Labarre and Jean B. Faribault both suffered from their harsh treatment of the Indians both having had severe stabs in their backs with their hunters. An incident occurred between ~~the~~ the soldiers of the Garrison and Mr Faribault while on the Island - which affected the standing of the latter for a time - There was not a drop of whiskey at the Post - the 22^d of February was approaching - it was hinted by some one that Mr F. had a little. Sergeant Mann was sent over to fetch the ~~the~~ ^{the} way as negotiator - he succeeded in all there was - one gallon and for which eighty dollars was paid on promise of inviolable secrecy. The 22^d arrived the whiskey provisions and to it had been debited with water - this the soldiers could not tolerate and Mr F. at all risks was reported to the Officer in Command. It was in the power of the Agent however to put matters at ease in Mr F.'s dilemma - he had his Smith temporarily employed for the Indian Department at Mandeville where Mr F. finally took a permanent residence - after many efforts of moral suasion the Agent was enabled to place himself at the head of the best organized Agency under the Government and this effected with much toil and but little support

from any quarters except such as
 was accorded by the Military when
 sought - which was seldom deemed
 expedient - Substantial, and sufficient
 quarters for all purposes had been
 secured by the Agent at his own cost
 and thousands of his own private
 "Expenditures" in many an emergency
 for want of sufficient public funds -
 At no time from 1819 to 1840 was
 the allotment for his Agency over the
 average of \$800. Not a square inch
 of stove cloth to such Indians in
 the Nation - No wonder the Agent
 was accused of great mystery, in
 his management of Indian Affairs
 but in this apparent mystery with
 Providence for an all wise Creator
 Reposed his given power of Control
 of the hearts of the Children of
 his race - he was protected amid
 dangers seen and unseen in
 two instances his life was preserved
 by an Indian woman and at
 another period by Duncan Campbell -
 like a brother of Scott Campbell
 the United States Interpreter a
 man of great worth and efficiency
 a true friend to the Americans
 but badly served in the strange
 decision made in the Treaty of
 Sept 29th 1837. his family is pro-
 entitled to \$8,000 granted by
 his Nation in that Treaty. It was
 necessary to reach the Mission
 Pres by train at Lake Harriet

in company with Philander Prescott
 Towards evening we left in our wagon
 for the Agency on the way met the
 Rev^d Samuel William Poirer on the
 Prairie who seemed surprised -
 saying to us "you had best hurry
 on as the Sioux intend marching
 to the Chippewas at Bakkers Trading
 Post -" Whip was put on the horse
 at once and speed made - Men some
 females running who said "hurry
 on further on you will be too late."
 we wanted no urging for the horse
 was able at his best speed - we
 reached the scene of trouble just as
 the Sioux went down on jumping
 from the wagon the firing ^{on} the
~~the~~ Chippewas commenced and so
 very heavy - the flashes from the
 guns so rapid that for a moment
 the Agent closed his eyes - but soon
 seized the Red-bird by the hair
 said "you beg he off" my voice
 was soon heard the Sioux made
 off in all haste leaving one
 Chippewa killed and two young
 Sioux mortally wounded. These
 fell from exhaustion in Capt
 Boon's Wagon Camp just beyond
 Minnehaha. The Soldiers carry-
 ing them to their temporary -
 Encampment a little further on -
 Hon J. P. B. Wright Surgeon of the Army
 being present was requested to
 ask for an order of Soldiers to

convey the body of the unfortunate Chippewa to the Fort which Regeneration Mayor Plympton in Council promptly complied with. The next day the instigators of this outrage on the Chippewas (all told in the day when the Agent had installed in the Office of Chief at the request of his people) ^{being present} were delivered up on demand of the Agent and consigned in the Fort to await future action, the murdered Indian was decently interred in public burying grounds near the remains Little Crow and "White Bear Lake" Sioux Chiefs. The Agent had satisfactorily shown not only on this occasion but in 1827 clearly to all men that he required not the use of Military aid in enforcing his authority. The Military interference doing more harm than good. Could the Military authority bring in offending fire hundreds miles off on the plains. No. but the Agent comes and did effect this - when it asserted ^{that} the Indians would laugh at the demands of their Father.

¶ We now come to the year 1839. The murder Ne-Ka or Badger near the Mouth of Lake Starnes day. Three of the Pillars of Lake. Such was the reputation of this Sioux. That this deed of wanton cruelty set on fire of revenge all the neighbouring

tribes in revenge a most unfortunate murder as the Indians were off in pursuit of revenge before the Agent was apprised of the movement they prepared rapidly up to River. and before the Agent Messengers reached the Village of Little Crow the young men crossed over lands to the St. Croix. and there were conflicts on the same day. it was a severe retaliation for the Sioux returned with thirty five scalps. human foresight could not have changed this truly unfortunate result. To witness the close of the year the Agent had performed all thirty stipulations the Indians Council with and dismissed. he was asked for another meeting in Council. This was conceded not aware however of the object, as the Agent had formerly arranged in presence of the Chiefs of Towns with their approval full Estimates for the ensuing year. Several Chiefs at the hour designated entered the Agency Office. Shortly thereafter John C. Fremont - Henry A. Sibley also Alexander Fairbanks & others of the American Fur Company. at this moment also a note from Mr. S. Prescott as to the true object that Council - which was to accuse the Agent with authorising the "Bad Hole" to cross the Mississippi, and drive Henry C. Merck a British Council from his territory.

Shop and put fire to his Cabins -
 This Indian a very bad one the
 Agent once conferred in the Guard
 House at the Fort for mutinous con-
 duct - was the tool selected by the
 Raiders and Whiskey Sellers to fasten
 a foul and malicious Charge against
 their long time, and unwavering
 friends - The "Bad Hole" it is true
 had consulted the Agent as to these
 pests of the Post - asking permis-
 sion to drive them off - before the
 day of the Annuitiy payments -
 He was emphatically told to go
 home to his Village - that neither
 the Indians nor the Agent had
 any business with these bad men -
 that the Chief of the Soldiers
 Major Plympton would at the
 proper time drive these men off
 and burn their Cabins - but he
 chose it seems to take this responsi-
 bility upon himself as one of the
 Soldiers and run Mr Menck out
 his house - but not by the Agent's orders
 for this was contrary to all his Councils
 for more than twenty one years -
 Nevertheless a writ was obtained
 of the Sheriff by James Clewitt
 a foreigner, ^{he} deputising Henry &
 Menck to serve it on another foreigner,
 which found the Agent in a sick
 room - there was no waiting a Canoe

was in readiness and back on well-
 drawing a Pistol at the same time.
 "You shall go to Clay two Courts house!" -
 The Agents Cooly said "put up your
 Pistol Mr Menck, or whatever your
 name is - I wish only time to leave a
 note to the Fort previous to leaving -
 # Mr Menck ^{was} ^{greatly distressed} in a few moments
 to find himself a Prisoner in the
 hands of a Military guard and kept
 across the Mississippi, and told to keep
 out of the Country or he would be sent
 to Missouri for entering the Indian
 Country without a passport - This
~~terminated~~ ^{terminated} this farce - the officers of the Post
 were greatly incensed as such ^{an} infamous
 violation of all laws. The Agent here
 asked to withdraw his resignation
 for a few months in consequence of
 this attack and other suits at law -
 brought by Allen Bailey and others
 for enforcing the intercourse law -
 but his appeal was not granted and
 Amos J. Bruce appointed - This will
 for he will know that time would
 come when all his efforts to do good
 would pass into oblivion and the
 nationality of the noble Sioux ~~be~~
 completely destroyed, and the Nation
 become extinct - The Indian Agents
 had failed to see that their Agents
 and were sending a Testimony
 can to the Agents of the Am & Co
 honest men had to retire from
 the Indian Service in disgust

as the most faithful-honest & persevering officers of the department could not convince the General Commissioners at the Seat of Government how necessary it was to give prompt attention to all Estimates under Treaty stipulations - and to confirm strictly article by article to these Estimates the Agency being alone held responsible by the Indians for the correct and faithful application of their funds - which should leave no room for comment by interested traders as to the quantity or quality of the goods procured by their money.

The Factory System of trade with the Indians was abolished in opposition to the ~~express~~ wishes of all the Agents officially expressed - had System been continued under a more thorough organization, and losses made up when even a treaty for cessation of trade were made with the Indians an end would have been put to the wrongs of the Am Sun Coy - no wrongs perpetrated on the ignorant, and helpless no perfidy - no bribes - no Commissioners at the making or fulfilment of Treaties with the Indians and the general peace among the tribes more easily enforced & maintained -

* All the disgrace for years back attending our Indian intercourse

may and can be traced not to the Agents proper - but to the acts of the Commissioners and other persons deputed by the Government to frame treaties with the tribes and return upon the poor Indians to make a most shameful, calling in the aid of more than willing tools to rob the helpless & forcing them unwilling signatures to base frauds upon them. - O what

man to what degradation has your thirst for gold brought upon the poor savage - The curse of God and the finger of scorn pointed at you by all Christian men - and unless ye repent ye shall all time wise perish - for the wickedness now wrought on every side while the voices of men are exalted - Never the less man being in honor abideth while he is like the beasts that perish - Such were the reflections, and experience in Indian Affairs of the Agents at St. Peters who have always tried to faithfully, and honestly to do his duty fear of consequences.

In the early occupancy by the Civil and Military of the Indian Country on the Upper Mississippi it was found indispensable to have and give orders to keep a light rein over a wild, and mixed population - Composing those not subject to law and order but help-witted, and arrogant a controlling influence became necessary, and was mildly but firmly

note

Refer to page 52
for continuance

enforced. Murder Thievery Purchase of
 Soldiers clothing introduction of whiskey.
 friendly drunkards met with
 prompt punishment - but few exam-
 ples were found excellent. Emigration
 from Pembina to the interior of the
 United States - did not commence
 for some years after the establish-
 ment of Fort Snelling - but the failure
 of crops by the inundations of rivers
 and swarms of locusts compelled
 the settlers to petition for passports
 to a large amount which were at
 once granted ^{by} the Agents. Many arri-
 ved at various times at the Entry
 were paid by Government, and sent
 onward to Iowa, and Wisconsin
 The Scotch forming a settlement
 near Leeches Lake called New Scotland
 among ^{them} the Agents recognized the
 name of Elis Hart and purchased
 his Cattle - Cattle he and gave him
 a boat to descend the River with
 his family - A German by name Perry
 and his family remained and
 became a great Cattle raiser so
 much so that the Commanding -
 requested him to change his location
 to Carvers old Camp six miles
 below the Fort East of the Mississippi.
 which he cheerfully did - here it
 may serve 3 male Teams of ten decide
 our location for us - Mr Perry was
 a celebrated Oreocher ^{and} - this fact
 coming to the knowledge of the

Ladies of the Post there was
no withstanding their appeal by
the the Commode Officer Col Sullivan
hence the Perry family become
a permanent fixture! —

When any of his large herd of Cattle were killed by the Indians the Agent had him promptly paid the military some times brought charges against the Indians one of these complaints being officially made by Dr Eastman will only be noted - I was for the killing of his pointer dog by a young Indian while out on the Prairie - the case was soon investigated - the Indian at once admitted the fact of killing the dog - but disclaimed any hostility to the complainant. The dog came up to him as he lay on the Prairie he seemed a good mark - he raised his pistols and fired - ^{and} the dog fell had he seen the Officer - knowing him well he would not have fired. He was ready to settle the difficulty by giving Mr Eastman his horse - ^{and} hoped he would not be hard with him as they were relations. Mr Eastman was officially informed of the result, & that the horse was in readiness should he accept the indemnity proffered. There was no response - but the hostility of

This gentleman to the Agent - of which he took no notice as he had performed his duty as far as an any honorable man could reasonably expect. Officers had familiarized themselves with the Indians after the fashion of the traders and there were many living evidences of the fact - Orders had to be issued by the respective commanding officers of the post excluding Indian Ladies from daily, and highly visits to their friends in the Fort - The traders would make a detective of the Agent if practicable - all thefts on each other were reported to the Agent for punishment - deserting boatmen (feed on Corn & Tallow) must be forced to proceed up the St. Peters with their own pits for the trade - right or wrong - Every one - Cow calf or hog lost by persons on the Indian lands - the Agent was expected to find the culprits or pay for these often pectuous losses - herons of cattle passing the plains including sheep to Red River Colony were deservents on the head waters of the Minnesota - Gibson the Contractor appealed to the Agent - & after much trouble - being fully authorized some \$900. of the loss was transmitted to General Clarke Supr. of Indian Affairs and paid over to the claimants - The winters were generally severe that of 1824-5 was more mild

The Steamer "Rufus Putnam" Captain
 Bates passing Lake Pepin and reaching
 the Fur, April 5th 1825 and returning
 again on the 5th of May with goods
 for the Columbia Fur Company passed
 up the Minnesota to their Post at
 "Land End" this was the first Boat
 passing through its waters as the
 Steamer Virginia was the first to
 land with Government stores at
 Fort Snelling - To show how very
 unfortunate the Government was in
 its selection of Commissioners to close
 the Gennevois Treaty of 1837 - The
 funds for the buy men of the half
 breeds some \$85000 was so long
 delayed that Mr Brothman of
 Penna & others bought up the claims
 of these poor ignorant creatures
 for one fourth and one half - after
 this the Commission finding the
 money still not arriving left by
 Steam for St Louis (the Agent at St Peter
 being in company) met some forty
 miles below St Paul on the
 a Steam Boat with the long expected
 funds, which Quarters Master
 McKissac immediately ~~returned~~
 in person ^{arrived with} to St Louis - Here official
 action was made by Commissioners
 Murray & Cameron for the Cash -
 Mr Wells Agent Stichever - on con-
 sultation with the Agent of St Peter
 refused to pay over - very properly -

an appeal was taken from the
 Military Disbursing Agents decision
 to the War Dept - open words to
 Senator Buchanan of Pennsylvania.
 An able pamphlet was written by
 Major Hitchcock, and published
 the S^t Peters Agents certificate embodied
 in it - so plainly was gross fraud
 shown - that the War Dept sent
 another Agent with funds to see the
 half breeds and settle with them
 allowing Sids Broadhead and
 others the sum of fifteen percent
 only for their outlay of money. -
 This transaction only went to confirm
 the official reports to the Office of
 Indians of the disgrace which these
 temporary appointments entailed
 upon the Agents proper in the Indian
 country - It seemed as if the Dept
 had no confidence in ^{officers} Commanders
 of Posts, and their Agents near the
 same to settle and adjust all
 treaty stipulations - had this policy
 been adopted full satisfaction
 would have been secured at a very
 trifling expense to the Government,
 being a man of simpler habits look-
 ing at things as he found them the
 idea of politics or political aims
 controlling men and parties
 had not been for a moment his
 study - he was a child in such
 matters - he believed himself honest
 in all things - clearing every other

other men whatever his station
equally so. but a lapse of time after
a close intimacy with all des-
criptions of people - the human heart
seemed deeper above all things
and desperately wicked - Eager
for Gold and pieces of silver in
the Councils of the Nation ~~on~~ being
fully incorporated and unblushingly
pursued as a trade it became
reviv to his mind as painful as
the bear idea ^{was} that the final
decline of this great and growing
Nation would destroy it - as all
ancestral history in the early ages
of the world had shown -

Shunning the common look of help,
I loved my Country for its help.

The winters of Minnesota have been
merely touches upon - the severity of
them was often fatal to both Whites
and Indians on the Plains -
Martinella and his lost his companion
~~from~~ near Lake Superior in passing
from the Red River Settlement to
Fort Snelling - this not the only -
occurrence of the kind - On one par-
ticular occasion in the winter of
1826-7 - a band of thirty seven of the
Sisseton and other Sioux in passing
from one hunting district to another
more favorable for game were overtaken
by a snow storm and encamped on
a large Prairie some ten miles from
wood land. Supposing they would not

prove of long continuance - yet the storm
continued to rage for three days and
nights - until the snow fell over three
feet deep - with intense cold - here
were seventy five men women and
children soon without wood or
shelter of any kind - this party had
but seven pairs of snow shoes, and
the strongest men left for the nearest
trading post one hundred miles
off - days were lost in going to and
returning with assistance to their
dying friends - the traders sent
four Canadians with whom provisions
they, and the Indians could -
after great toil these reached the
scene of distress, and save for the
greater portion of the Indians were
dead - the most revolting of all
this calamity - the living were
subsisting on the dead - A mother
had eaten her deceased offspring -
and a portion of her Father's arm -
a very few were rescued - among
the poor unfortunate woman that
had been forced to suckle her
own child - she made her way to the
Agency in early Spring but was a
lunatic - at brief intervals the
agents tried delicately to get what
information he could of the disaster
but the heart of Stone could not
have witnessed her ravings - without
the shedding of tears - poor Yash-
ko-ta - young, and lovely in person -

She uttered leaps & bounds on visiting
 the Fort in the presence of several
 persons - if he knew which was the
 best portion of a man to eat - taking
 him by the collar of his coat at the
 time - his astonishment was so great
 at the bear idea - that for a time
 could not speak - after a while
 replied no - She said the arms -
 all was done for her that sympathy
 could suggest - but a few days -
 thereafter she ^{was} found above the
 Entry of St. Peter's dead from the act
 of drowning, and decently buried -
 poor Tash-a-ho-ta - She has gone to the "Spirit-
 Land" - The first murder of ^{one} Indian
 by another was caused by the giving of a
 bottle of whiskey to the old "White Bus Lane"
 by Colonel Leavenworth at "Cold Water" Camp -
 which was productive of some very sharp
 correspondence between the Commanding-
 Officers, and the Indian Agents.

In order to enforce morality as
 far as practicable - being the highest
 Civil Officer at the Post - he induced
 many traders with growing Indian
 families to baptize their children
 by marriage - there being no Minister
 in the country he officiated as a
 Justice of the Peace and united
 many - among them was Oliver Carter
 to Miss Graham - James Wells to Miss
 Graham daughter of Leonard Graham -
 Alpheus W. French to Mary Wagner
 of Ohio - closing with the Union

of Helen Scott with Harrier Robia-
 -son - my servant girl which I gave
 him - the only colored woman pur-
 chased was by Alexis Bailey of
 Major Gar cane - The Agent in
 after news gave freedom to all
 his slaves - if estimated by others
 would be a fifth of twenty five or
 thirty thousand dollars - but there
 was no outside influences touching ~~the~~
 the decision in ~~the decision~~ ^{not} of the libera-
 tion, it was a solemn act influenced
 by no earthly power - Indians thought
 much of Negroes - called them Black men
 or black frenchmen - Wah she che Sappo -
 wound the Agents boys heads, and laugh
 heartily - The Agent at Traverdes Sioux
 found it expedient to punish his
 servant for getting too much whisky
 to several young men which pleased
 the Agent for a time in an uncon-
 fortable position - When brought up for
 Cartage, and a blow or two had
 been inflicted - the Indians prayed
 the Agent ^{to} forbear. Well said the
 Agent if you will all hit him
 with your Pipe Stems for his bad conduct
 he may go - This was acceded to at once
 but it was not known if they had
 inflicted, any blows on Williams -

The war with England had been
 the means of dividing the largely
 populated Belas into small com-
 munities - these having Medals & flags
 and Silver Girdles presented by

Colonel Robert Dickson to each
 town Chief selecting a squad of
 Indian allies for the British service.
 induced these young men at
 the close of the war to assume
 the station, and prerogatives of
 Chiefs - the authority of the old
 Chiefs put a defiance - This was
 the status of things when their new
 Agent assumed the direction of
 their affairs - there is required time
 and prudence to consolidate these
 off shoots and give confidence
 and more authority to the hereditary
 Chiefs - It was necessary in aid of
 effort - to secure as fast as possible
 a delivery up of all their foreign
 marks - so much esteemed by their
 possessors - Success attended the
 efforts of the policy silently adopted
 and the Agent in two years
 received thirty six medals of
 George 3^d. Twenty eight flags, and
 eighteen Gorgonets - of American
 medals, and flags he replaced
 only such as might enhance his
 own influence with his people.
 It was some length of time before
 he could induce the Indians to
 respect the Sabbath day - all days
 being alike to them - It so happened
 that hundreds of important
 peace conventions were made
 and confirmed by the hostile
 tribes, on the Lord's day - But time

and patience brought them to reason
 and for years respected the white man's
 Great "Medicine day" - The sign given
 for the day of rest - was the Agency
 flag floating from the flag staff
 at the Agency Council house -
 For a time it was deemed prudent
 to apparently give in to their various
 superstitions, ceremonies - appear to be
 interested in all these dogmas of
 religious ceremonies - initiation into
 the medicine family, dances, songs
 &c. The Agent in the winter of February
 1846 - witnessed the initiation
 ceremony on Pitts Island when the
 Little Crow Grand Son - Little Crow
 and two young women became
 members of the medicine family -
 The Grand Master Little Crow a venerable
 Chief officiated - he advanced to the
 enclosure - asking the Agent how
 he liked the ceremony - "I would
 invite you within - but it is against
 our rules - of course he was too
 grand, and sublime for I was a
 Mason, and could comprehend
 much that the uninitiated could
 not - he said at this time we
 could not make ^{you} a Brother member
 of our order - but at another if
 you wish it, though no white was ever
 permitted to unite with us - but if
 you were to apply it would be hard
 to refuse you - you are as good as
 an Indian in our minds - The

The
 was at "height of influence at this period
 with not only the Seon - his special charge
 but with the Chippewas from Chippewa
 River to the Pellagers of Otter Lake -
 When Chiefs died, and others were to
 be installed, the parties were uniformly
 compelled to designate their choice by
 a simple process. The Committee were
 given a full suit of American uniform
 and told - The Chief selected in Council
 by the bands on reporting to the Agent
 with that uniform on would at
 once be recognized, and respected by
 him - This course of action uniformly
 gave entire satisfaction if not it
 was no fault of their friend. -
 As to dispeacung - or making Chiefs
 of Towns the Agents well knew would
 prove an unpardonable assumption of
 power, and affect his standing with
 all the Tribes - Not one man in five
 thousand understands the Savage heart
 to soften this, and continue in forgive
 his power must be given him from
 on high - That power enabled an
 humble instrument to face all dangers
 to stop war parties often from 300 to
 800 - to bring offenders to justice hundreds
 of miles off - all by the aid of a moral
 influence which they did not resist -
 all evils influences brought to bear
 on the minds of the Indians by the
 traders, and others were fearfully met
 and foiled in a manner that they
 could not comprehend - as the Agents

had his eyes upon them concerning as
 well theirs upon his. Messrs Samner and
 Gideon Ponds two young Christian men
 from Connecticut and to whom the Agents
 gave both his quarters, and encouragement
 were of inestimable service so was the
 Rev Dr Williamson - Mr Reggs - Mr Stevens
 Gavarn & others of their respective Missions
 also the Rev Abram Coe - who suffered
 much in the Chippewa Country - we
 would gladly pass over the name of
 the Rev A Bronson of the Methodist
 Mission without comment but in truth
 in truth he said he gave to the
 Indians, and the Agent trouble with
 his complaints, and demands. The most
 unreasonable - The Government could
 not be induced to permit the Agent to
 use funds applicable under the Treaty
 of 1837. to schools, and Missions - in this
 his hands were tied after an expen-
 diture for these important objects of
 only \$1500 - But few unbiased live-
 ing men know of the ferry ordeal
 through which he had to pass from
 1819 to 1840 - Volumes of Official and
 other Correspondence shows more than
 the world will perhaps ever know -
 and finally becoming satisfied that
 serving to the close of his Sixth term
 would not only endanger his reputation
 but his life from the influence of bad
 men into the Country and this per-
 his incomparable devotion to his charge
 and the true interests of the Government

he left with sorrow his devoted
people - with the hearty concurrence
of his friends J. M. McKean - also said
you have done your best fearlessly -
devotedly - nobly - You are among -
thieves and murderers - the Indians
are a damned race - Save your reputation -
Thus closed the life of the Agent among
the several tribes of Minnesota -
In 1856 he was in Minnesota and
present at the laying of the Corner
Stone of the S. Paul Western Society -
he found none to know him - not
an invitation did he get to "break
bread" with any of the poor made
quickly rich - nor could ^{he} get the
Agent of the American Fur Company
on their bond indemnifying and
forth coming - drawn by Jos. Rotter
and witnessed by Henry H. Seelye to
free him from the cost of a suit
brought by Alexis Bailey then Agent
for Sir Barnes of Whiskey - Seized in
1854 - was referred to Hercules L. Bensonman
as a put off - no relief - hence the
remark of General Z. Taylor becomes
applicable - "Take the Am. Fur Coy in
the Aggregate, and they are the greatest
set of scoundrels the world ever knew"
After a lapse of years the late
Agent - reentered the Army of the U.
States in March 1857 - was ordered
to San Antonio Texas - then to Fort
Leavenworth Kansas - thence to Pills-
burgh Penna. where he served some

four years at the hearing of the Rebellion
with the approbation, and approval
of his Superiors - The President was
pleased on the 27th of August 1863 - to
have his name placed on the retired
list of the Army - with his pay proper -
Rebels have been pronounced
ungrateful - but now at the full
Age of Seventy - he is an exception -
The Upper Missouri became a
place of considerable resort during
the Spring and Summer months after
Steam Navigation became fairly to be
safe and expectations - not only our
Citizens from the States but from
foreign Countries - England France
Italy - Russia - Switzerland visited
the Falls of St. Anthony - the river & the
and beautiful surrounding country -
among the latter Capt. Maryate of the
Royal Navy - a famous author - a
rough deep connected John Bull - he
visited the nearest trading Post to
see the Indians announce himself
an Englishman to them though he
quite willing Interpreter - spoke of
their great nation that was going
through their country as their friend
that their great British Father had
never forgotten them - This interview
of the Sailer - was of course made at
once known to the Agent and it
was delicately intimated to the
Captain that his exploration of the
country closed at Fort Snelling

Quel Sharleaux or the Bog. scene -
or rather its author left soon for
the lower Mississippi.

So G. Bellman on Staten paper
with the agent from Pittsburgh
to Fort Snelling in the Steamer being
- in Captain Pemberton with stores
for the Army contractors - and the
firm Boub that had - had the
tendency to make the efforts - on the
route up the Father of Waters - the
agent and a fireman were on the
Staten deck - one fair day - firing
with a Rifle at a mark - 25 cents
per shot custom fashion fashion
When friend Bellman arrived
at the scene, and soon a scene -
followed. The Staten - while my
opponent the fireman was adjusting
the target for my shot in turn - picked
up the Rifle & took the British Snuff
on the deck off its wants the balls
cutting through his right whisker - no
further damage - but his case was
terrible - he was about to hit my friend
the fireman - but my arm interposed
Mansy said Jones if you had
hit me with that gun I would
have given you the worst beating
you ever had in all your boy days -
this brought the exclamation "Too
much King in America too much
King - The response was yes in we are
all things here no distinction - The
Count's bitter nature soon prevailed

when he apologized to the few men
 for his rashness - who said I trust
 it's all well - but if you had of hit
 me with that gun - you would have
 wished you never lived - after this
 episode we passed to our destination
 through a brilliant light many miles
 of the way for the bordering hills were
 all on fire & shortly after Bettrami
 descended at the Fort became long
 with his Scientific expedition arrived
 composed of Mr Calhoun Professor
 Saye and Mr Seymour - Mr B. asked
 and obtained leave to accompany
 the Expedition to Peimbera. I gave
 him my noble Steed "Cadmus" with
 full equipment - provisions for the
 journey over land - he left in good
 spirits but finally quarrelled with
 Colonel Long. Separated from his party
 and alone starting in quest of the
 sources of the Mississippi - he has in
 his letters to his "dear Country" given
 some facts of his tour interspersed
 with ideal egotistical fiction. Yet
 he was a man of talents and
 deserves credit for the information
 imparted to the Country as far as it
 goes - he knew but little of Indian
 habits or characters - his temper could
 not brook the tardy movements of this
 people - he could not let patience
 have its perfect work - and so he
 and cloudy weather a Pillager but
 Chief were known to the Agent.

and under whose safe guard he then was, hundreds of miles off - had no falling out - so that the Cloud had to strike the Count with his Pele Stem to keep him quiet and our Italian had sense enough to take the hint. After this cloudy weather with a few young men escorted them charge in safety to Fort Snelling - Bettamini speaks truly of his ardent reception on his return - but he kept dark as to his troubles with the Cloud - but the old ^{man} gave the Apenn all the particulars - when I met him said the Cloud and he mentioned your name - pointing down the Mississippi I determined to see him safe to your house - The Chief was thanked, and rewarded for his fidelity -

The most interesting explorer to the upper Mississippi was J. B. Nicolson a distinguished French astronomer a gentleman of general scientific information - he had landed at New Orleans from France and while there fell through the Observatory breaking two of his ribs - he was known to Chief Justice Catron and kindly taken into his family - and cared for until able to move without pain - when he with letters from the Judge went his way to St Louis - here he was given letters of introduction to the Agent at St Peter,

and his Lady - who invited him to their residence - furnished him with pleasant quarters and a plate and their table - Berperice fasting a Call six months a month one year - Soon many questions were put as to the probability a accomplishment of the object of his visit to St Peter - Could he go to Settlements of Lakota yes - Could he go to the sources of the Mississippi yes - Will said he with a pleasant smile - You American beat de cler? Suppose I say Can I go to h - e - you say yes - here his friend Mr F. remarked none of us will send you that route if we can prevent it - Will then Maclean change my route to the upper Mississippi - and with the aid of Berg & Baker as traders at the Post and the Agent - he soon had his Bark boat - crew and proper stores and left us in good spirits with his loads of scientific instruments for his tedious exploration he succeeded well and returned with a map of the Country & though drawn with a pen - presented a beautiful picture of lakes - land and rivers - This original map was presented to Mrs Salliaferro - after he had finished it at the Agency in the fall & winter of 1836 - It was deemed of great value after this - by the Agent - that we should get Mr Nicolson to explore the Country generally to the north and west of us - Minnesota and the Missouri -

The Indian Agent Soudance Mr N, on
 this idea - he responded quickly - "I
 have received so much unexpected
 kindness and hospitality from the people
 of the United States thus far, that if
 requested he would not say no. This
 was enough and May Pillsbury at
 once addressed the Secretary of War
 Mr Pointe on the least importance
 of a more perfect knowledge of
 one of the finest and most pro-
 ductive portions of our least
 territory - The proposition was
 met in due season and Mr N,
 with his associate John C Fremont
 entered upon this great exploration
 and survey, and the result of their
 labors was a large and correct
 map of Minnesota - Decade -
 The long and dreary winter spent
 by Mr Adams in the family of
 May Pillsbury at the Agency were
 relieved in the long nights of some
 16 hours duration - by music - Mr
 N was an accomplished violinist,
 Mrs J. on the Piano - for hours
 each night - on closing their
 come his last supper of wild
 rice mush and milk - then to his
 rest in the Stone house - When
 Mrs J. left for her home in
 Beaufort Pennsylvania, Mr
 Adams and Mr Fremont were
 entertained by Mr Sibley at

J. Mendota his Trading Posts means
 the Entry of Minnesota River. -
 Mr. N. when low spirited did not
 forget his Sister as he came her -
 Mrs. Tuleupero - as to France her
 at Belgrade and passed the
 winter with us - and it was well he
 did for he had to be carefully nursed
 and had the best Medical attendance
 Mrs. T. dressing his blisters and
 acting faithfully the good Samaritan
 on the opening of Spring we all
 went on in Company to Washington
 City - there to renew his official labors -
 The small map presented to Mrs. T.
 was founde under her care to ^{the} ~~his~~
 completion of his larger map, and
 this probably gave him - but after
 his death was never recovered -
 this map ~~which~~ I deemed of all
 things to place in the Archives of
 the Historical Society of St. Paul - as
 also a copy of the Gunn on parchment
 of Carvers Claims - signed by the Snake
 and further we visited Mr. N. at
 St. Marys College Baltimore -
 where all his Geological specimens
 and other specimens were stored -
 also at block Heuata in the same
 City - where he founde in the person
 of the lecturer daily a second sister -
 never was any foreign Gentleman
 more esteemed than was Mr. N.
 by all who ever knew him - he
 was a man of fine heart, fine,

Corporate, winning Combarrow -
 when last in Washington we were
 at his request the French Minister
 M. Pontua on being introduced
 by Mr. A. was most cordially
 received and forced to sit in his
 Chair of Office - The Minister was
 profuse in ~~the~~ thanks for the
 many kind attentions to his
 esteemed Countryman Mr. A.
 he was informed that I had
 done nothing more than was
 my duty - and nobly did you
 perform that duty said the Minister
 well said I to the Minister I
 can this night say what none
 other ^{man} can say - what is that said
 several voices - (for the room was
 full by this time) I have been
 Secretary of State of the U. States
 and Minister Plenipotentiary from
 France to the United States - how
 is that? easily explained quite
 man - When I was a green I went
 in the Army - my Father gave me
 a letter to James Monroe Secy. State
 on delivering this letter I was asked
 to take a seat - and as I found
 my self in my companion in a large
 red Morocco Chair - his State Chair -
 now I pay my respects to the Minister
 from France and he forces me to
 take his Chair of Office - The point
 was seen and produced some

Meriments - Mr. A. said you are a
 bad boy - you will help however -
 It was the earnest hope of Mr. A.
 often expressed as his health failed
 him - that he could live to see to
 his great work - and out of gratitude
 dedicate it to the People of the United
 States - into whose hands his papers
 fell I know not - though applica-
 tion was made to the Office of Topogra-
 phical Engineers - ^{Of} Memorials of this
 distinguished man, more than one
 remain in the family of Mr. Paley -
 and whose memory is affectionately
 cherished and will continue as
 as long as they live -
 Of Mr. Featherstonehaugh - a long
 name, but little can be said as to
 his explorations of the Minnesota
 his report does not give evidence
 of a Master mind, as it was made
 up mostly from construction and
 not from actual observation
 or Geological research - he was
 obviously not flattered with his
 reception at Fort Snelling, or in the
 Indian Country - he attributed
 to his current for that which
 he possessed not - Superior talent
 and modesty in his profession -
 Such Mathews of the Army his
 associate was of a different stamp
 solid clear headed Scientist with
 a modern unassuming gentlemanly
 bearing - he showed ^{new} the English

757)

Gentlemen into one of finest
fields for topographical ^{research} in any portion
of the world - the notes of Lieut.
Mather on this expedition
were filed in the Office of the
Topographical Engineer at the War
of Government.

Apology

My age is now April 1864 -
over three score years and ten -
so aptitude, and nervous attention
with severe pain at times and
general debility - That I fear
the 75 pages sent - so full of
obvious mistakes, and bad
orthography, and worse orthog-
raphy - This portion - for it is only
a portion - will prove but of
little interest to my kind friends
and Brothers in Christ.

Laurence Taliaferro

M & R. U.S. Army

Rev. E. C. L. Vail

Secy. Wis. Society

Saint Paul

Minnesota

P.S. Should a large number of
autograph letters of distinguished
person bearing on Indian affairs be
needed as reference for authentic you

You can have them

Omnipecun not before noted on Indian Affairs - Military Officers - Indian Trade & Teachers - Laws of Congress - foreign population - habits &c
Fresh from the Army the School of Honor and
thrown at once into a new sphere of action a
young man of acknowledged Military Taste
and firmness - it became his duty in his
important, delicate, and dangerous pos-
ition as Agent for Indian Affairs at the
Falls of St Anthony for the Northern & Western
tribes of Indians - to learn their habits Man-
ners, and Customs practically - by a free
and free intercourse with all that could
be reached - He found the old Indian
Departments without form or Consistency
but Chaotic rotten to the Core - British
influence had kept for years the Minds
and bodies of the poor Indian by evil-
Councils in entire subjection hence the
Officials of the United States - especially
before and during the war of 1812. found
their efforts for good worse than useless
to the Government - It was left for the
year 1819. to stay the tide of "John Bull's"
supremacy over the various tribes, not
only within the New Territories - but also
through out our entire Indian Country -
Joseph Robble - Col Robert Dickson - Duncan
Graham, and others active in marshaling
the Indians to ^{join} ~~join~~ with England had
been proscribed the Country - Congress
had passed laws too tame for the times -
arrogance, and presumption of old British
Traders had not been sufficiently checked -
Agents had granted at Macinac a
General license to the Am Fur Coy - under
which sub licenses were signed in blank
by George Boyd - and these were filled

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up in the Indian Country by Traders
for trade at any points selected by them
this completely neutralized the Law which
designated points at which the trade
should be conducted. Hence the Agents
at St. Peter for a time had to respect the
action of the Agents at Macinac as to the
granting under criminal license for
trade on the Mississippi and River.
St. Peter - all this had to be met and
corrected however censured by the fur
traders - all the acts of the new Agents
were carefully considered and faithfully
and truly reported to the Government -
as early as 1820. The Officers of Fort
Snelling in an official form unani-
mously approved the action of the
Indian Agents and their entire con-
fidence in his ability to continue -
not only the Indian trade but the
fur trade, and traders. Subsequently
the fact that British influence had
received a heavy blow. In due
course of time it was found that
the persons proscribed at an early
day might be permitted to join their
families in the Indian Country. The
war kept was consulted - the Agents
gave a letter to Col Robert Dickson
for the Sec of War and a note also
to the British Minister Mr Canning
as to Col D's honor and faithfulness.
The Minister paid him his Pension
of 300 lb. Sterling. The last he ever received.
and the President after an interview
with Dickson directed the Sec of War
to let Col D. leave the case of the

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old Scotchman entirely to the direction
of the Agent at St. Peter - as he alone was
responsible for the conducting his Agency -
of course the old offenders had full
permission to join his family at Lac-
quapare. This act of the Agent gave
some offence to his venerable Superior
of Indian Affairs - General Wm Leake
but the Agent not only assumed this
responsibility but he recalled General
Graham, and others - admonishing
Mr Noble - who seemed astonished
at the decision made so speedily after
the former decisions of the Government.
It was fortunate for the official
harmony of the Country - as the Agent
by his decided action made hosts
of friends speedily. - It was at this
period that he received an additional
name. Chunta-topah - on the four hearts. -
French - Scotch - Sioux - American. - also -
Muscoe. S. Paliapero Sub Agents - a younger
brother was named Mahgasutah or
"Strong Iron" and quite popular with
Indians generally. being an M. D. Medicine
Man. after Colonel Leavenworth came
Colonel Snelling - Colonel Merjan Major
Foster - Colonel Case - Colonel Bliss -
Captain Gale - Captain Leis - Captain
Martin Scott - Colonel Taylor Major
Donate Major Plympton of Traders
Licensed from 1819 to 1840. There were -
Alexis Bailey - J. B. Fairbairn Philander
Prescott - Wright Prescott Jos Renville
Louis Provineau - Daniel Lamont
Benjamin A. Baker - Duncan Campbell
Alexander Fairbairn - Hazen Moore.

4. Alexander Culbertson. A. Pyzane -
Lafontaine Rock. Ezekiel Lockwood
Jean Bapt Mayrand. H. H. Sibley -
Rex Robinson. Duncan Graham
Joseph R Browne. James Wells -
Joseph Lafontaine. Joseph Snelling
Francis Labarre. Augustin Grignon -
J. P. Titton and others. Most of these
Traders, and many of their bands
had the use of Indian women
as long as it suited their Con-
science and Children were born to
them. In purchasing women from
their parents a price more or less
had to be paid by the Clerks of the
respective Companies. Their women
must be dressed - and most of this
extravagance charged on ^{a/c} of their
hunters, as took credits on making
their returns to their Agents.

The Traders Licensed at Macinal by
George Boye & Henry R Scholcraft for the
Chippewas on the Upper Mississippi Lakes -
and Rivers. were Wm Atkin the
Father of 25 Indian Children - Morrison
Holiday. Chapman - Cote - Dingley
and ~~Warren~~ It was in this Section
that traders from below met the most
strenuous opposition - decreed all goods
as duty free American Goods - Blankets
only for to clear Stems through - There
were British Goods from England - heavy
Strong, and Cheap - Their Guns would
not burst - This only one of a hundred
devices to prevent Indians from -

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obtainng Credits from their Competitors
stealing each others Credits was a common
occurrence - deemed no dis credit in the
nature of their business - only sharp practice
over reaching Cunnning. - The British Nation
abused traders let loose their venom
on the presumption of the Authorities at
Fath Snelling. The Belust abuse being of the
innocent Agent at St. Peter. he was called
all sorts of names by Atkin & others in
their Councils with the Chippewas - all
of which was yearly made known to him
by the Chups, and head men visiting
annually his Agency - all this folly made
no difference in the line of his duty - but
pursued a fear less, and independent
course of action public and private
which but to shame his Maligence -

One great difficulty in the way of our
honest acquitment of Indian Claims
under Special Treaties - from beginning
to end was the treaty making power -
In the Superintendency of General Leas -
a precedent was established the most
fatal, and dishonest - that of granting
Indians, and white reservations of land -
under treaty stipulations and recognis-
ing the Claims of traders for lost credits
in their dealings with the Indian tribes -
no Commercial interest on earth was
so recognized or guarded - It seemed
wonderful to learn men that the
President, and Congress, could not
or would not at once reject such
palpable bare faced frauds - but

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So it was and so it continued
to be the rule under several suc-
cessive Administrations of the Government.
The efforts of several Agents to correct
these palpable acts of injustice to
both the United States and the Indians
proved powerless. Political advance-
ment of certain ordinary men in
the West. proved finally sufficient
to become identified with the
cupidity of the Fur Traders and Land
Speculators. This was made their
pecuniary interest. Hence the intent
of the Government, and the Indian
Treaties had, as it were to go to the wall.
Indian Agents that could be
influenced proved recreant to their
several charges. The Indians finally
lost confidence in all white men -
and well they might in referring
to Indian treaties, and their fulfill-
ment - under solemn stipulations. The
heart of the honest man is made sick.
However, there lies in all wrong a
germ of retribution, that will punish
the wrong doer, sooner or later.

But for the Treaty of 1857, the Sioux bands
of the Dakota Nation would have been a
peaceable, and thriving people - but
the wrongs perpetrated by white men under
that treaty, mainly caused the murders of
many innocent people in 1862. The Crow
and his Indians realized their fate in
1858 at Washington at the last treaty
with the Government. They were as Cheyenne

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lead to the slaughter. No man seemed
to care for them. They became desperate. -
Their young men could no longer be
controlled. Their lands were sold and
the traders got the proceeds. Though the
conscience of men called respectable
citizens by evil doers. Contracts for the
removal of Indians was among the number
of stupendous frauds practiced on the
Government. Some Commissioners of
Indian Affairs - either knaves or fools -
entered into the wildest contracts
one as a sample of the rest. Mr
Commr Brown contracted with Henry
M. Rice for the removal of the Win-
nebagoes from Iowa River to the
Crow River beyond the Falls of St. Anthony
for (\$100,000) one hundred and
five thousand dollars. H. M. Sibley
said he would perform that duty
for twenty five thousand dollars.
Commr Brown resigned his office
because of being overreached on with
a well lined pocket. - a proposal
was also made after the Treaty of
Sept. 29th 1837 to remove the Sioux from
the East of the Mississippi to the West
for the sum of \$50,000 - for traveling
the Agents was in Washington. he
called on the Indian office, and
presented on the Secretary of War.
to postpone action in this case
until he could return to his Agency
and make to the Dept his report.

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The Agent took no time - arrived on the 15 of June 1838 - reported that he had called the few Sioux East of the Mississippi to a Council week at "Blue Grove", and for less than \$500 - secured their full consent to remain west, and they faithfully adhered to own agreement. The depth could not but this prompt action of their residing Agent but he gained no friends by thus summarily thwarting designing Knaves. —

At a later period had the Government used the experience and influence of their first old Agent as their as a Commissioner on Councils - Minnesota would have had long peace & prosperity. The headstas have said as much more than once. — Not until after the 1840 did the Government become unfortunate in the selection of their Agents for Indian Affairs. Previous to this date men of distinction have sought perseveringly a position in its - Ex Members - Governors - Members of Congress, and other Citizens of standing - The office of Indian Affairs had grown from two rooms to thirty - so rapid was the increase of official intercourse with the various Indian tribes - It may be as well here on the close of this sketch of the experience of ~~Agan~~ ^{Agan} Taliaferro during some twenty two years as Agent for Indian Affairs in Minnesota and after he had -

went into the Army in 1857 March 14-
 to record the remarks of Little Crow and
 confirmed by Wabishas, and Sharcope the
 Sixth - in June 1858. at Washington City -
 These Chiefs and the boys with them
 called at quarters of their old friend
 and Father at the corner of 11th & Streets -
 with their Interpreter Joseph Campbell
 elder son of Scott Campbell the faithful
 Interpreter of the United States at the
 Agency at St. Peters from 1822 to 1840. -
 The Little Crow said - "My old Father we
 called upon you - we love you - we respect
 you - we are here none but children -
 our old Chiefs are all gone - we don't know
 what to do - They want us to divide our
 lands and live like white people - since
 you left us - a dark cloud has hung over
 our Nation - we have lost confidence -
 in the promises of our Great Father and
 his people - bad men have nearly destroyed
 us - you took my Grand Father with you
 to this great City in 1824 - you took my
 Father also to this City in 1837 - he did
 good for our people - he made a good
 Treaty, because you stood by him - he
 loved me so - and that I must always -
 mind your Talk for it was good & true -
 "No Sugar in your Mouth" the Nation had
 no better friend - my Grand Father repea-
 -red the same words to us - in my Ears -
 I loved you from my youth and my
 Nation will never forget you -
 If ever we act foolish and do wrong -
 it is because you are not with us -

How is it - you counseled our Nation
for more than 20 years - and since you
left - we have had 5 agents as our
Father a man with your place A. J.
Brown - he was a fool and had to leave
soon - then came another and so on - we
failed to get a friend in any one like
you - they all joined the traders -
we know your heart is full for
your old children - Wabash has followed
confirming of the Crow's remarks -
and as he is saying "My Father I am
as you know a man of few words -
my friend has spoken my mind -
and the mind of all present here
this day - How is it that J. R. Brown
an old trader is in your place -
we are Indians but we have no
confidence in Mr Brown - I hold your
hand for the last time"

My poor helpless friends were advised
to make the best treaty possible and
try to live in peace with the Whites.
Near them - for their own sakes -
and more especially for the peace and
security of their wives & helpless
children - To go to war with the Whites
was of no use in redressing supposed
or real wrongs - that war would surely
destroy their Nation forever - on this
they now had the solemn word of
their old friends - one that had never
deceived them, and never would -
hear all things - hope all things -

and the Great Spirit will never leave
you in the hands of bad men long. -
The Crow in a speech at Red Wood -
in sparing the lives of one or two
families - Mrs Woodbury & children
of the member said - "I did not wish
to go to war - but my young men forced
me to it - we have begun and must
do the best we can - I spare the
lives of some of you for the sake of
our good old Father Maza-Bunah -
his words are this day in my ears -
had he been here - this war would
not have been" Mrs Woodbury is our
authority for the Crow's remarks - when
all supposed that they would be
murdered - we bring this imperfect
sketch of one that uniformly tries to do his
duty to God, and his fellow ^{man} to a close,
only adding that neither in war nor peace
had he a ^{he} ~~any~~ personal difficulty with
his ^{map} ~~map~~ mates - is a member of the
Order of A. G. Masons - a Deacon in the old
School Presbyterian Church of Beeper
Pennsylvania - in good standing - and now
in his seventy first year - placed by the
President in August 1863 - on the Retiree
list of the Army - for long and faithful
service to the Republics

