



Frances Densmore Papers

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Sioux place-names in the vicinity of
Red Wing, Minnesota

Given by Wakawastewin, an aged Sioux woman

Mississippi River

Wakpa'na
river

tan'ka
large

Lake Pepin

Caki'ya
Man's name

tabide'
lake

Cakiya murdered a man and hid near this lake,
which was afterward known by his name

Maiden Rock

Wino'kca
Young woman

hiyu'giciya
fell

A young woman was being urged to marry a man
whom she did not like. She went out on this
rock to get away from him. He followed,
and she jumped from the rock to escape from him

Cannon River

Iq'yan
Rock

bosda'ta
Standing

wakpa'
river

The rock for which the river is named was
said to be some miles up the river from its
junction with the Mississippi

Vermillion River

Hu'ta
Bottom

biya'
moving

The explanation of this name was not clear,
as the interpreter said it did not refer to
a changing in the depth of the stream. He said
it referred to the relation of the river to
the surrounding country, the river having low
land along one shore and high hills on the other

Prairie Island

Tin'ta
Prairie

wi'ta
island

Stony Point

Iq'yan
Rock standing

bosda'ta

This point was said to be on the other side
of the Mississippi, above Prairie Island, but
the identity of the place is not clear

3902 24 Aug 34 From Wakawastewin

Barn Bluff

Hemni'ca
Woods and hill

Sioux village on present site of Red Wing

Hemni'ca oton'we waste
" village good

Island in Mississippi opposite Red Wing

Hemni'ca ita'kasam wi'ta
" across island

Bay in Mississippi above Red Wing

Hemni'ca ga'hamin
" bay

Bluffs back of present site of Red Wing

In'yan ma'za su
Rock iron shot

It was said the Indians found small globules of iron in these hills, resembling the white man's shot but not made by human hands

Diamond Bluff

O'na woju'ptan ipa'

Entire phrase was said to indicate that the Sioux went in the spring and planted some sort of crop on the low land ("flat") at the foot of this bluff. This would be a favorable place for early planting

Creek near Diamond Bluff, probably the Trimbelle

Onawojuptanipa wakpa'tan
" creek

Wabasha's village

Wabaasha oton'we
" village

Walking Buffalo-- oldest remembered chief of this locality

Tatan'ka ma'ni
Buffalo walking

Walking Buffalo's head warrior

Tasa'gi ma'za
no English equivalent Iron
known to informants