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

SATTERLEE PRINTING COMPANY,

4252 UPTON AVENUE SOUTH,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. July 21, 1933

Mr. Geo. H. Bradley St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: I am submitting a sketch of an event of the Massacre of 1862. I may have two or three more. If I am not on the right line of stories please let me know.

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Respectfully yours,

m. P. Satterlee

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THE MASSACRE AT SACRED HEART.

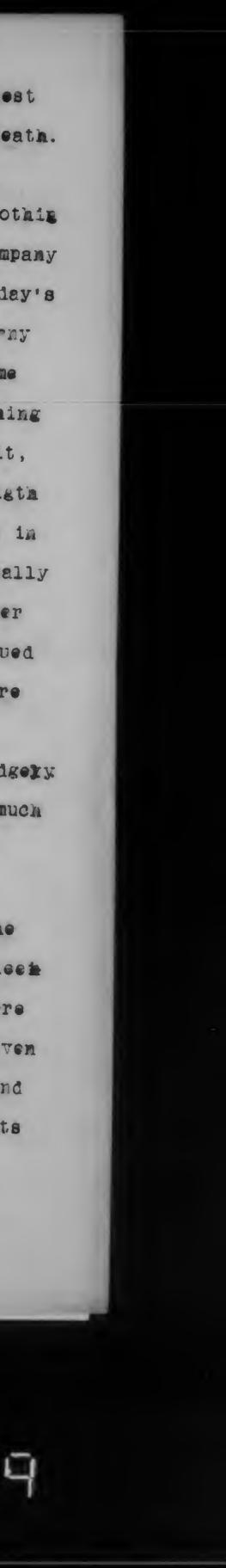
Flora Township in Renville Taxashi County contained a community of German citizens, living mostly on sections 18 and 19. They were back from the Minnesota river about three miles and for this reason did not learn of the outbreak of the Dakota Indians on the 18th of August, until the next day about noon. Two men enroute to the Agency discovered several people evidently killed by Indians, and returned hastily to the settlement with the alarm. As there had been frequent reports of the Indians breaking outthey were slow to believe it to be so. However messengers were sent out and the settlers gathered at the home of Paul Kitzman, and late that afternoon decided that their safety lay in flight. Messengers sent out dark returned with fresh tales of killings. At near aundown they started out keeping far back from the river as they rightly judged the Indians had followed in their quest of victims. Their course was over the wild prairie without oven a trail to follow. As they had only oxen they had made about 14 miles by the next morning. As they were at breakfast a war party of Dakotas who had been after scalps in the Chippewa country discovered them and came up appearing very friendly. On hearing of the murders they declared that the Chippewa Indians had done this and that they were looking for them to kill them. Kitzman knew some of them and taeir story was accepted, and the settlers turned back toward their homes, and all went well for some time. Later they commenced to act strangely going shead or behind the caravan, and finally demanded money which was given them. One said to Kitzman "You are a good man I should hate to kill you." Later on T. Krause who was riding the only horse made up his mind to escape to the fort for help and started off toward the Agency. This only made the Indians act more savagely and some went after him. The mare which Krause rode had a colt which could not keep up and would not speed without it. So he had to desert his mount and hide in the grass, but finally reached the fort. When in sight of their homes the settlers were fired upon and other Indians appeared on the scene. All

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Sacred Heart Massacre--/2.

All but three of the man were killed at the first shooting and the best soon after. Many of the women and children ware immadiately put to death. Mrs. Anna Zabel and 14 children escaped by running to the woods and brush. Justina Krieger was shot with buckshot and stripped of her clothig but later was able to crawl away. She was picked up Capt. Grant's company and during the battle at Birch Coulie laid in a wagon throungh the day's fight and received several slight wounds. She recovered and lived meny years. When the Indians had gone the children went to the Krieger home and stayed over neght. While they were hunting for estables next morning the Indians came and burned the house with seven of the children in it, whether dead or alive none can tell. While the affray was at its heigth the oxen became frightened and run away. Mrs. Michael Yess was caught in the trace chains of one team and carried into the brush where she finally broke loose and hiding made her way to the fort. Taken prisoner were 22 women and children, all of whom were at Camp Release and Rescued by Sibley's troops, except Mrs. John Neuman and three children who were taken from the hostiles secretly, at the risk of his own life by Ang-wang-mani (Hupples as he walks) and carried in a cance to fort Ridgery Rilgman A most sad incident is that a baby Gustave, while a prisoner cried so much that as was finally killed by his captors. An older brother, was Louis Kitzman for many years a conductor on the Oneka Northwestern Railway. John Frass a member of the settlement was killed at the massacre of the Schwandt femily (parents of Mrs. Mary E. Schmidt of St. Paul.) The fleet ing paty consisted of 13 families in 11 teams, eight escaped, seven were burned to death, and 22 were captives. Record of this event is only given in church "eccrds at Sacred Heart (very incomplete) early newspapers and pamphlets published interested parties. Any possible living participants at this time would have been more children at the time of ocurrence.

ENCLOSURE



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