

I didnt use this envp for pretty but because there was none other handy

Fort Ridgely April 17, 1863

Dear People

Today is mail day again and I expect a letter from you, the down mail closes before the mail gets up. So I will answer it in advance. There is nothing new to tell you of only that Fort Ridgely is safe, there was quite an excitement the first of the week among the men by the arrival of the scouts from Yellow Medicine saying they had captured a prisoner and that there were seven more on their way down to new Ulm & Mankato, which number very rapidly increased to 2500, coming to attack the Fort. if the report grew as rapidly on its way to Shakopee no doubt you think we are all roasted by the savages before this time, a party went up & brot down the prisoner & another party went to look for the others but without success, the prisoner reports about 2500 with little Crow, and his Head Quarters to be at Devils Lake. I hope

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before the summer is out it will be at
the Devils Lake we read about, the Indians
are discouraged and many of them would
like to come back, but Little Crow is
bound to fight.

Arthur has come back from St Peter
and is about used up, he is very lame &
somebody told him he has inflammation in
the kidneys, and I think his liver is out
of order. but I believe the Dr thinks
its all inflammation, I believe it would do
him good to take Imerensins altho he has
been taking so much medicine I don't
know as it would do to give it to him
the Dr is giving him iron, & says all he
can do is to keep his strength up and
let him wear out the disease, but I am
afraid the disease will wear him out
he can get a discharge if he wants
but he doesn't.

I expect by this time you are looking
anxiously for Clare if she has not al-
ready come, I wish I could be there
to meet her at the boat, if I could

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the Devils Lake we read about, the Indians
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I expect by this time you are looking
anxiously for Clare if she has not al-
ready come. I wish I could be there
to meet her at the boat, if I cant

get down she must come up & see
me by & by after some of the troops get
away we shall have more room and
can entertain any number of Ladies
I should not wonder if we were kept
at this place all summer. Our affairs
down south do not look very bright
by the last papers we had, but we
hope to hear of something by this mail
I've not had a letter since your last
was received, we have had no boat
here yet, but have been looking for
one every day for a week. I hear
Henry has gone on to a boat, perhaps
he will get up as far as here.

How is Uncle Moses, and the
rest of you, have you had any
more parties lately. How are the
town people getting along. Have you
got your fence built & garden made
oh dear I wish I was home to see it,
I've had the blues for several days
but that is nothing dangerous.

Yours
Moses

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