

DEAL

A member of the Cinque Port' of **Sandwich**. In the County of **Kent (England)**. 74 miles S.E. from London.

CALLED by the Ancient Britons *Dole* (a low open plain upon the sea), **Deal** is considered to be one of the possible sites of the landing place of Julius Caesar in Britain. In the Domesday Survey *Dola, Dale, Dele* is mentioned. In the time of Henry VIII, **Deal** was merely a fishing village lying half a mile from the sea, but the growth of the English Navy and the increase of foreign trade brought men-of-war and merchant ships in increasing numbers to the **Downs**. The **Downs** formed a fine natural passage and anchorage between the shore and the Goodwin Sands, in which large fleets of windbound vessels could lie protected from the north, west and easterly gales. The prosperity of this famous port developed mainly from the victualling and supplying of stores for the large numbers of ships frequenting the **Downs**. Many merchantmen put in to **Deal** "for orders"; East Indiamen sailed down from Blackwall and Gravesend to form up their fleets for convoy; and men-of-war rode off **Deal** awaiting orders; all of which resulted in the active handling of a great number of ship letters.

ORIGIN: Antigua January 3, 1777
VIA: Deal
TO: Edinburgh (Scotland) April 2
TRANSIT TIME: 89 days
HANDSTAMP: DEAL/SHIP-LRE

DEAL
SHIP LRE

S.1

1767-1786



200 -

FURY
LETTER
REL ESCAPE
FROM ST
+ SHIPWRE
IN OCEAN
(SEE PAGE
PAGE)

This fascinating letter describes the trials and tribulations of a Charles Town (Charleston, South Carolina) Merchant who fled the American Revolution the day before the Declaration of American Independence. He first moved to Savannah, Georgia and then took passage for Jamaica to start a new life. His Ship was thrown off course by a storm and he was shipwrecked on a Bahamian Key which today is called Great Guana. Rescued after living on the uninhabited Key in a tent he went to New Providence Island and from there to Antigua where he embarked on a new career as a Planter. This letter is quite fragile but contains extraordinary details of the life of an 18th century adventurer. A complete transcript of the letter is contained on the reverse of this jacket.

Dear Mr. Ross. January 3, 1777

I take this greable occation to write you these few lines the second time and hope your, honour and the Lady is in Perfect good health. Sir, I being in good steat of health at present write you this to inform you that I was under the Disagreeable necessity of Departing from Charles Town, So. Carolina the 3 July Last to avoid that Rebellos, Bloody Continent. (NOTE: Charles Town successfully opposed attacks by the British Fleet in both 1776 and 1777 but was captured in May of 1780 and held til December of 1782 by the British.)

Mr. Ross I was in a fine way of making a small fortune in Charles Town before this unhappy war Brock out, which John Deas merchant of Charles Town knows for he was my best friend there. I workt for him. He recommended me to the Best of Customers and promised before the Troublesum times came on that he wood advance me 3 hundred(pounds) Sterling to by nigrans and Establish me in Bussness and Sir before I wood take up arms against my King and Country I Left Carolina and came to Savannah in Georgea and the 5 day of NOVr Last I tuk passage for Jameca in West Indes and after Four Days sailing we was(wrecked) and cast away with a Gaelil wind(which) drove us ashore on the Rocks of a Island called greater Goana(Great Guana,Bahamas)Key, but Blessed be God we was all safe. I was two week on that Desmal island in a Tent and at Last spied a saiel, I hailed her and (she) came to us for there was no Inhabitants nearer us than four Days Sailing and they gave us passage to a Island called New Providence in West Indes then I not having no oportunenity of Geting to Jameca I tuk Passage to Antigua in West Indes and Sir when I arrived heare in Town of St. John's I thought I wood feind incouragement in my way but could not for trade in the West Indes is very dull now for they had all these whites wood(arrive as refugees) from america formerly, and then I met a gentilman in Town, named Robert Harvey Planter in the country and (arranged) with him to be a Planter(also) and I inclinded the bussness very well. Sir if I see that it amount better then my former Bussness I intend to follow it. My salery is about forty pounds sterling, and if I Live will be advanced next year. Mr. Ross, if your honour wood be Pleast to write me answer I wood Esteem it as a great Pease of honor and Sir, if you would direct to Daniel Ross on the Estate of Robert Harvey E. Squire Antigua.

Dear Sir, I am your most honorable SEVT. Daniel Ross.



JACK PINE CAMP
INDIANA DUNES

MAY 20, 1935

DEAR ROY:



Thanks to you, I am now

B.F. #8415.

Howard

March 25, 1935

Dear Roy:

The "Indian Old Man Stover" came Saturday. I am very much pleased with it, especially so with the inscription. That was kind of you.

However, I cannot agree that, as you say, my "possession" is a superior lien on the book than your "ownership". In this adventure which you and I are now experiencing, it is better that I should play the role of pupil and that you should be the teacher.



"Oh! The days when all the prairie world was white with rime of mornings
And the lodge smoke towered straight to meet the sunlight
coming over late for happy hunting!"

— Neihardt

Ill.

WPA STATE ARCHIVES NOV 31

WPA STATE ARCHIVES NOV 31

"this Territory is the extreme North Western Frontier
of the United States adjacent to the British and in
the immediate neighborhood of the Russian Colonies,
exposed by its position to the invasion of all the great
maritime powers in time of war."

Lancaster, July 1849

Aron has indeed gone to California, he started the 21st. of April,
from Plattsville on the 6th of May he commenced his journey ~~with~~
on the Plains. He went with a brother of the gentleman that
married my sister, one that will be to him a true friend in every
respect. They bought in with a man formerly a merchant of Baltimore
gave him 90 dollars each to Sutters Fort. I suppose you know all
about where it is. Aron wrote to me he was well fitted out with
good Ox teams. Aron himself, was well supplied with medicine, guns
knives, cloths and books. He bought a good horse to ride. I have
had three letters from him from the Plains the last dated the 24th
of May from Fort Kearney he was well and said he never enjoyed as
good health, they have joined Capt. Hudspeths train he had been through
with Fremont and had three good pilots who said they could take them
through safely. Aron will write from Fort Larime if he is spared. That is
is at the South Pass.

Launceston July 31st / 1849

Dear Brother Martin

I received your kind letter of May 29th and resolved to answer it immediately on receiving it but concluded at last I would wait until I heard from dear Ann. He has indeed gone to California he started on the 21st of April from Plattsville on the 5th of May he commenced his journey on the Plains he went in company with a Brother of the gentleman that married my Sister one that will be to him a true friend in every respect. They brought in with a man from a Merchant of Plattsville gave him 20 dollars each to purchase for I suppose you know all about where it is Ann wrote to me he was well fitted out with good by teams Ann himself was well supplied with medicines, good knives & the clothes and boots he bought a good horse to ride. I have had three letters from him from the Plains the last was dated the 24th of May from Fort Kearney he was well and said he never enjoyed as good health they had joined Capt. Hudsports train he had been through the country with Hancock and had three good pilots who said they could take them through safely. Ann will write from

Sacramento City
Feb. 18, 1856.

letter & few more -
time to write much.
this city at present.
can have any truth.
few things in it which
I take care of them
gone to Santa to co-
now gone with him.
not written previous
ed place of residence.
the Legislature to elect
I will then either
re, in El Dorado Co.
asure of our county,
ying the El Dorado
I will probably
question come off
here a few days
was treated with
at broken and
are elected will
to the mines.
apt. Walter D. J.
ords.

traders in the mines.
We perceive a tendency to advance in the price of barley.
The stock on hand is small, but if a means of supply are not ex-
-y in case of any rise, sales of Flour are heavy at \$5 50. Corn
Meal is in demand, and we quote it at \$5 50 a \$6.

PASSENGERS.

For Steamship Golden Gate for Panama—Geo W Wright,
Wm Hiker and lady, J F Wolff, A Herman, Capt W Nash,
Mrs Dunlap and child, Mr and Mrs Smith, Mrs Brown, Mr
Bunker and servant, Mrs T W Sawyer, Mr. Low Geo I Sog,
J B Sprague, A Walker, John H Sherman, E H Suray, W B
Lawson, R F Johnson, Wm F Morrison, Ewd Tely, Lapse
Kelly, Kate W Edington, Susan Mansfield, Whitehead and
Driscoll's (Adams & Co's correspondents) Jas C Fall D A Bay-
sald, L W Kinnison, D B Kiefer, J H Chapman, J D Thomp-
son, Geo Watson, Jas R Porter, E J Nugent, J E Wright, John
Jones, J Hawthorn, S Williams, H C Weeks, Doshin, P Fu-
ger, H J Smith, C Banker, Jr, W D Jones, J D Farvel, J K
King, Pablo Alcala, Tuo S Giddell, W McNulty, B V Fosam,
Wm Hayes, C H Ellis, S C Keyes, Mr Saucier, M Kinn, A
Stinson, J Gentry, Capt C Schwaner, Joe Hixman, G Lee,
P G Bradenst, J A Stanfield, Dr F W Todd, Sefford & Co's
messengers, G W Chapman, E H Kandelick, G W Nelson, J
Simons, R F Pollard, Geo W Coates, R H Price, Jas N Mastin,
J H Meiler, D F Thompson, Wm F Blackland, J W McCook,
Louis Lewis, Tully, Lewis Robinson, Henry Burtis, J W Hill,
David Corf, W Baderick, T J Gilmer, H A Hochstetler, John E
Gibson, David Nagle, Omer Mack, T Hubler, D M Leach, J A
Mills, L L Brown, J V Ott, Geo E Brinkley, L Kester, W A
Gwen, Henry Webb, James Jackson, M Guffrey, J B Thomp-
D G Gilmer, Joe Raula, E T Cahppel, W J Giran, Thomas
Creaner, James McKee, John Creaner, Alex McKee, Donald
Talbot, S J Edmond, Wm Mullin, G Switzer, J E Fennell, X G
Fisher, A J Packer, J R M Kuzny, L Altonworth, F J ; rason,
F Boardley, J Klimes, G W Beach, H F Taylor, Wm De-
ze t, Wm Robinson, J E Reed, J McKee, S Criswell, D Gell-
mer, A McKee, J W Giff, A Phelps, S A Fox, L B Davidson,
W Wright A Brande, K Brown, I Berger, G A Gilman, S Wild,
H Dyer, Wm, F E Groat, H E Knox, J Stevens, B T Moses, S
Morgan, G Hay, W H Woodson, D Zook, S H Gray, J Korner,
O Allen, J T Hoefler, J W Swamy, A Aslake, J D Meyer, J
A Matthews, J Sumner, L Walden, A Harris, Geo, Wux, D
Lewes, R Dotson, W G Parr, J Walsh, J C Palmer, J
Seancher, J Collins, W Nichols, J F Sullivan, W McCulloch,
J Keady, D S Swamy, A A Jones, J Sumner, A H Hoagland,
A Morgan, J Griffin, J M Jones, J B Leach, G Kinnon, T
Hewey, M Deake, JERRY H Dorton, F K Knudsen, W S
Clark, J Coates, O L Palmer, J E Hachson, E H Wootley, A
Happer, S J Haley, J H Choworth, J Boyce, M Danckowet,
G H Heiler, G G Seeler, L E R Klose, C M Boyls, H Bank, W
H Baggrave, Mr Kirby, W Hastings, Is-bells and child, F
Gardner, J Taylor, wife and 2 children, J H Koser, L Sym-
ner, J Walsh, J A Miller, A Thompson, J C White, J Cassell, J
Newman.

Photostat reproduction from
BANCROFT LIBRARY

Daily Alta California
Date Dec. 4, 1851 Pg. 2 Col. 6
Reproduced by Library Photographic Service
Date 4/14/55
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - BERKELEY 4

- No. 8.—James Doughty, New York, aged 37.
- Henry H. Smith, Mass., intemperance, pauper.
- Cubical Torry, ——— pauper.
- 11.—Walter Torry, pauper.
- Nathaniel Butler.
- 12.—Ruben Yarer, pauper.
- Mrs M. Tangeman.

SAILING OF OCEAN STEAMERS.

SHIP.	FOR.	DATE.	AGENT.
Golden Gate, Patterson	Panama.	Dec. 5. Packer, M. S. D.	
Sea Bird, Haley	St. Diego.	Dec. 5. J. B. West.	
Comida, Anshley	St. Diego.	Dec. 5. W. J. Bailey & Co.	
Princeton, Howard	Honolulu.	Dec. 5. P. O. S. Co.	
North America, Blithen	San Juan.	Dec. 15. Nicaragua Co.	

OCEAN STEAMERS DUE.

SHIP.	FROM.	DATE.	AGENTS.
Carolina, Whiting	Panama.	Nov. 30. Packer, M. S. Co.	

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Cattle

Dear Mr. [unclear] I am very sorry to hear of your
illness and hope you are getting better every day.
I am sure you will be well again in a few days.
I am very sorry to hear of your illness and
hope you are getting better every day.
I am sure you will be well again in a few days.
I am very sorry to hear of your illness and
hope you are getting better every day.
I am sure you will be well again in a few days.

Yours truly,
St. John F. [unclear]



West from Greenwich 94

96

98

Map showing the Relation
of
NEBRASKA
to the
ADJOINING STATES & TERRITORIES

SCALE OF MILES



East from Washington 21

99

17

Chicago, St. Louis,
 Thos. Kelly, President & Manager
 R. H. Lee, Vice President

Kansas City, St. Joseph,
 Frank G. Mills, Vice President
 Jesse Sherwood, Vice President



Long Distance Phone 341 Yards.

National Live Stock Commission

744 Union Stock Yards, Chic

J. H. Sheehan

Sold for Account of _____

P.O. _____

Shipped from _____

Clermont

PURCHASERS.	CATTLE.	HOGS.	SHEEP.	WEIGHT.	DOCK.	STAGS.	SOVS.
<i>Agmon R+O</i>		<i>51</i>		<i>167 40 40</i>			
		<i>1</i>		<i>CRIP DRESSED WT. 348</i>			



Return in 5 days to
**NATIONAL
 LIVE STOCK
 COMMISSION CO.**

CHICAGO, ILL.

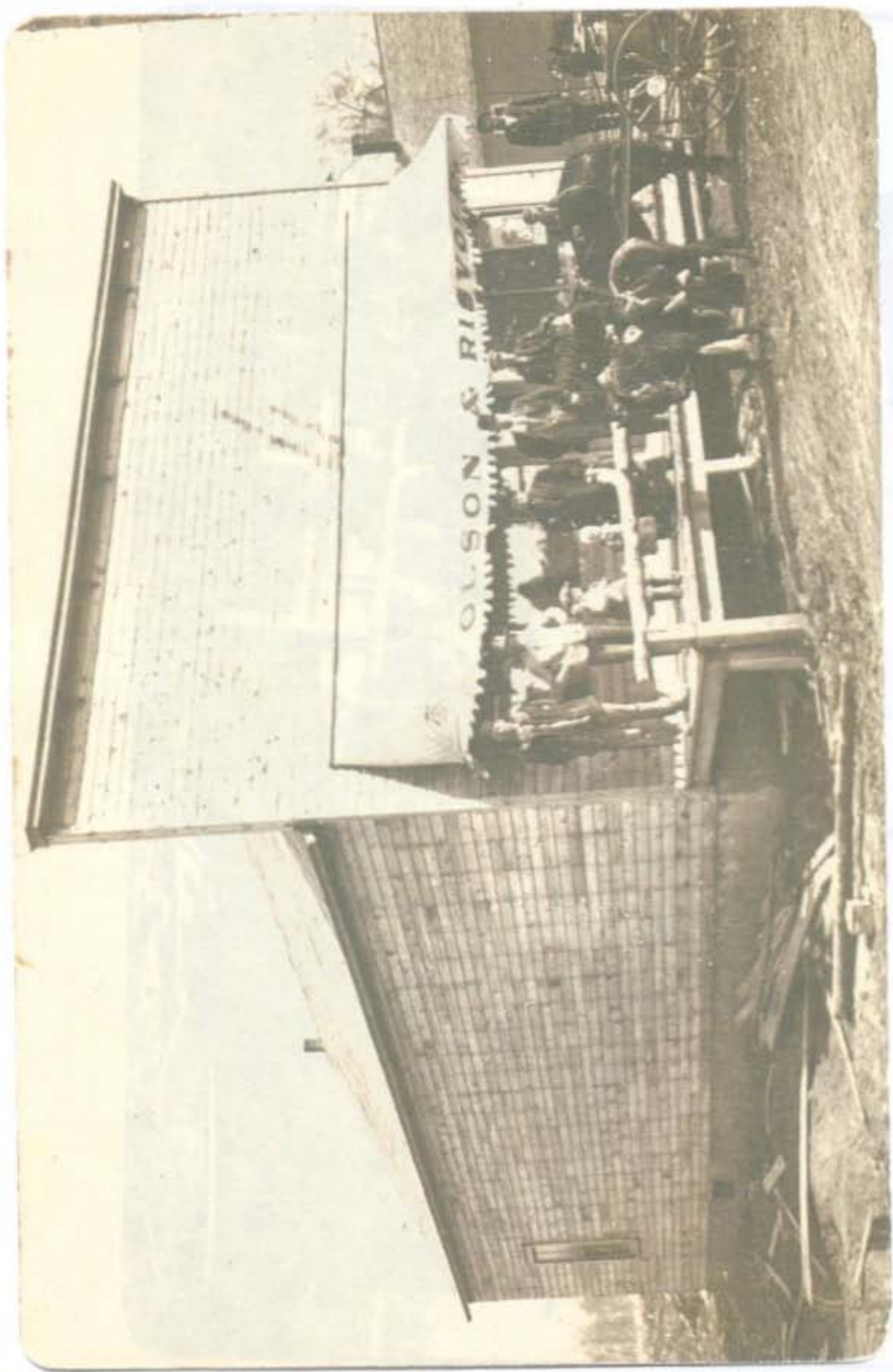
CHICAGO
 DEC. 12 10-00 PM 1907
 ILL.

1907

C



Mr. J. H. Sheehan,
 Clermont,
 Iowa.





CHRIS LUND, my mothers brother, writes to his uncle, Knut Knutson, from Hawkins in the logging country of northwestern Wisconsin. The photo shows Chris driving two horses pulling a large load of logs. He also says that "It is fine in the woods now. There is not hardly any snow." You can see that some snow has been put on the road to make it easier for the horses to pull the sled with such a heavy load. F. E. R.



Postmarked at **HAWKINS, WIS. FEB 19 8 P M 1908**; received at **DRESSER JUNCTION, WIS FEB 20 A.M. 1908** and at **MILLTOWN, WIS FEB 20 P.M. 1908**.

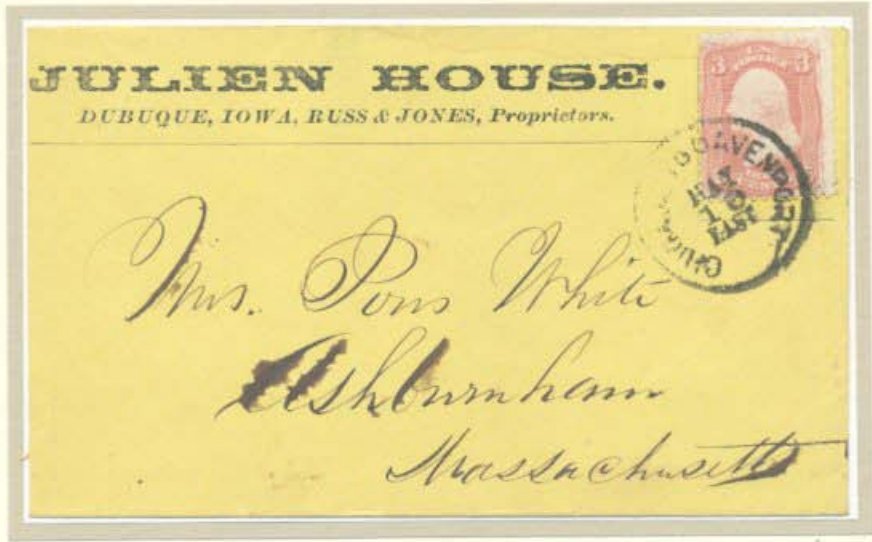


THE FALLS IMMORTALIZED BY LONGFELLOW.

MINNEHAHA FALLS in winter dress. Note the man and woman standing near the edge of the falls and the white horse drawn sleigh on the left. Original photo by B.F. Upton, Minneapolis.

BELOW the falls in summer. Note man in white coat near the edge of the falls and man in back ground. Photo by Whitney Gallery, St. Paul, Minnesota.





Julien House, Dubuque

A. H. Dunton, Proprietor



*G. A. Potter Esq
West Eau Claire
Eau Claire Co
Wis -*

JULIEN HOUSE,

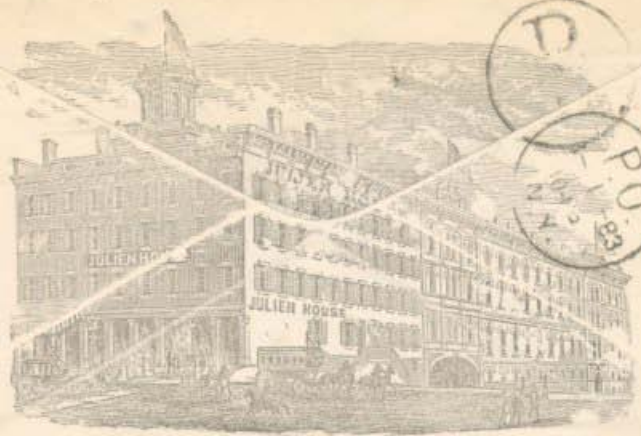
Dubuque, Iowa. - JOHN RUSS, Prop.



*Mrs Julia Linedu
Gennell
Poweshull Co
Iowa*



Mrs. L. G. Gottschalk

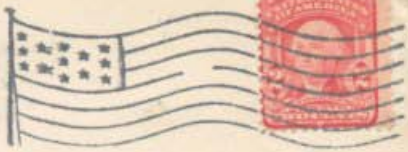


CHASE & GRANT, Proprietors, Dubuque, Iowa.



Hotel Julien
W.C. KEELEY, MANAGER

DUBUQUE
JUN 8
11-AM
19 08
IOWA



Dubuque, Iowa.

Mrs. Robt. D. Ewing,
Portsmouth,
Ohio

Handwritten:
No 2
Hotel Julien

All communications on public business should be addressed "BUREAU OF STEAM ENGINEERING, NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C."

B.K.H.

In replying to this letter please refer

In reference to No. 2549 J.

Navy Department,

to No. 2183 JJ.

BUREAU OF STEAM ENGINEERING,

Washington,

August 2nd. 1889.

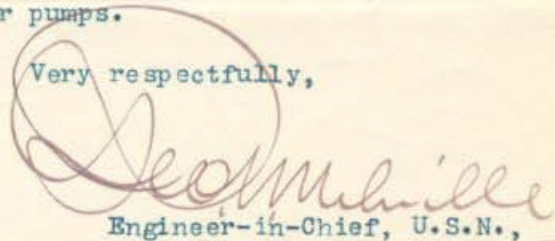
Gentlemen:-

The Bureau acknowledges the receipt of your letter of the 1st. inst., with accompanying blue-prints showing a design for a combined air and circulating pump.

We have no work in hand now where we think an arrangement like yours would be desirable. However, should the Contractors for the machinery of the MAINE submit a design similar to the one you send, the Bureau will give it due consideration in acting on their application for a change of the present design.

The Bureau regrets that there are no more copies of the specifications for the MAINE'S machinery, and, therefore, cannot comply with your request for a copy. Messrs. Palmer & Co. could furnish you the requirements for pumps.

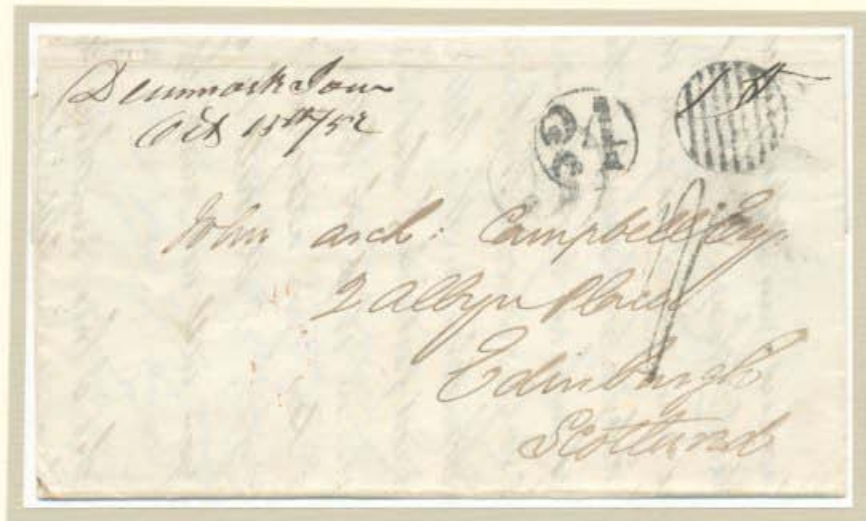
Very respectfully,


Engineer-in-Chief, U.S.N.,

Geo. F. Blake Man'fg Co.,
#95 & 97 Liberty St.,
New York City.

Chief of Bureau.

R.S.C.



DENMARK, IOWA. Post Office was established in Lee County on April 7, 1846 and continues in operation. Folded letter above postmarked "Denmark Iowa/Oct 15th/52" and rated 5 cents U.S. as per numeral 5 in circle and 24 cents to Scotland - 24 in circle and the manuscript 10 canceled out by grid in circle. Backstamped as per illustration.





State of Iowa
Executive Department

Des Moines, Sept 25 1871

J. O. Crosby Esq.
Dear Sir

Enclosed find a leafly gotten



SAM MERRILL Gov. of Iowa, writes to J. O. Crosby, on the laying of the corner stone for the new capitol building. "It will probably be the only record left of us in a thousand years from now. The question will be raised, nine hundred & fifty years before that time, by the gawking crowd, who will daily examine this stone, who was Sam Merrill and who was Crosby? Echoes will answer, who?

Sam Merrill"

SAM MERRILL was the Colonel of the 21st Iowa in the Civil War. He served two terms as Governor of Iowa, 1868 and 1872. His program "for the occasion of the corner stone" is attached to the letter.



Crowd, who will daily examine this stone, who was Sam Merrill and who was Crosby? Echoes will answer, who?

Yours truly
Sam Merrill

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

Thos. W. McPherson

Reg. No. 16

WALNUT CITY IA, MAY 13 86



Wm Marshal Field Esq
Chicago
Ill.

WALNUT CITY,
APPANOOSE CO.
IOWA post office
was established
March 12, 1867
and discontinued
in 1903. A regis-
tered cover bear-
ing stamps of the
Banknote period,
May 18, 1886.

PERSIA,
HARRISON CO.,
IOWA post
office was
established
July 3, 1882.

Return to *G. J. Fink*

PERSIA, Harrison Co., Iowa,
If not delivered within 10 days.



Gorman's Superstition

Register No. *Milwaukee*

181
165

Y.P.'s

If not called for in TEN DAYS return to
J. R. ELLIOTT,
Dealer in
DRY GOODS & GROCERIES
Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps Etc.
LISCOMB, IOWA.



REC.
No 161

Field Leiter Esq
Chicago
Ill.

5839

5839

LISCOMB, MARSHALL
CO., IOWA post
office was estab-
lished October 14,
1869. The three
covers are GEMS
of postal history
and are very much
self explanatory.



BURLINGTON, IOWA

is a growing city of the middle west, with a population of about 35,000. Situated in the heart of a rich agricultural district, watered by the great Mississippi, surrounded by magnificent forest trees and all the beauties of nature that America boasts of; peopled by citizens who are wide awake and energetic; having four lines of railroads with the Mississippi affording cheap transportation by water.

LIBRARY

SWISS COTTAGE

Burlington offers many inducements to the man seeking a home or desirable business location. Its churches are active and well supported and her public school system is a source of just pride. She has six strong banks and one Trust Company whose assets are over \$9,000,000. There are 16 miles of gas pipes, 30 miles of water mains with 298 hydrants, 16 miles of electric wires, 60 miles of sidewalks and 18 miles of paved streets in the city. The manufacturing interests are many and varied, while the many wholesale houses are strong and busy. Burlington gates are open and the welcoming hand is extended to all who enter with the right spirit. Come and see.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ADDRESS THE
COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE OF BURLINGTON, IOWA

THE McWILLIAMS-BULLOCK CO. BURLINGTON, IOWA.

Army of the Frontier.

Camp. Gladden Valley, Shannon. Co. March 23rd 1863
 Hon. James F. Wilson. [Missouri]

Dear Sir,

I have just been informed of the resignation of Col. Crabb of our Regt., thereby creating a vacancy in the Office of Major. And that there is also a scheme on foot with certain individuals by which it is intended the Captain of Company "K", shall be promoted over me to fill said vacancy. I being the senior Captain am justly entitled to the Office, but being detached from the Regt. and they from the Division, communication thereby being entirely obstructed renders the possibility of using my own influence beyond my power.

Can you do anything for me by way of letter, or recommendation to the Governor? If so and will do so be assured your efforts in my behalf will

Master Roll of the detachment of Capt James F. Norton's Company
 extra duty during the months of May and June 1861, in service
 Kentucky and State of Iowa - and paid per Act passed by the Genl
 Sols. H. of

Names	Rank & Expedition	Date of Service	Days	Pay
James F. Norton	Capt. 1st Regt Iowa Cav	May 18 to 23 1861	10	23.33
Jim Stafford	Sr Sgt	" " " " " "	10	8.66
Jim S. Stafford	Private	" " " " " "	10	4.33
Walter Burgess	"	" " " " " "	10	4.33
Henry Saldor	"	" " " " " "	10	4.33
Lewis Witter	"	" " " " " "	10	4.33
Engl Brock	"	" " " " " "	10	4.33
Joseph Brock	"	" " " " " "	10	4.33
W. C. Broadway	"	" " " " " "	10	4.33
Benj Stafford	"	" " " " " "	10	4.33
Lewis W. Sengford	"	Head Quarters May 18 to 23 1861	5	2.17
Wishford Carter	"	" " " " " "	5	2.17
Sam Houser	"	" " " " " "	5	2.17
Steph Cooper	"	" " " " " "	5	2.17
A. J. Trucks	"	" " " " " "	5	2.17
Colt Leetch	"	" " " " " "	5	2.17
J. C. Longford	"	" " " " " "	5	2.17
Benj F. Craig	"	" " " " " "	5	2.17
Jacob Snider	"	" " " " " "	5	2.17
Wm. S. Starn	"	" " " " " "	5	2.17

Approved
 R. B. [Signature]
 Adj Gen of Iowa

of Mounted Rifleman known as the Frontier Rangers as performing
 recruiting parties of Indians in the counties of Plymouth and

Assembly April 1862

Value of Articles	Value of Clothing	Value of Equip. Horse	Value of Forage	Total	
\$12 00		\$4 00	\$5 67	\$21 67	James R. Martin
3 00	0 83	4 00	2 67	\$10 50	William Stafford
3 00	0 83	4 00	2 67	14 83	Jos. R. Stafford
3 00	0 83	4 00	2 67	14 83	Walt Bingle
3 00	0 83	4 00	2 67	14 83	How Snider
3 00	0 83	4 00	2 67	14 83	Lewis Winter
3 00	0 83	4 00	2 67	14 83	Isaac Brock
3 00	0 83	4 00	2 67	14 83	Jos Brock
3 00	0 83	4 00	2 67	14 83	O. C. Broadway
3 00	0 83	4 00	2 67	14 83	Ben Stafford
2 50	48	2 00	1 54	7 41	John H.

I certify on Honor that the foregoing
 items are correct and physical and the receipt
 and that they were any of the persons
 and pay for said items or any part of
 May 26 1862

J. C. Lambert



THE WESTERN MAILS



GEM CLAYTON CO IOWA JAN 4 [1859] A turned cover of a 3¢ Nesbitt envelope, used from Michigan to ELKADER, IOWA. The GEM Post Office was established September 18, 1858 and discontinued on December 12, 1887. This is the earliest use of this postmark.

GUTHRIE CENTER GUTHRIE CO IOWA MAR 18 1863. Post Office was established April 1, 1856 and is still operating.



If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

F. P. Wheeler
Guthrie Center
Iowa

Warren B. Taylor Esq
Plymouth
Windsor County Vermont

THE WESTERN MAILS

IDA COUNTY, IOWA

IDA GROVE. Post Office established as IDA on February 9, 1857. Changed to IDA GROVE December 11, 1877.



CLARENDON. Post Office established on September 5, 1884. Name changed to GALVA January 8, 1887.



*Mr. Louis Freudenberg
Monroe
Michigan*



*J. C. Knapp & Co
Box 1996
Chicago
Illinois*



Geo B Barrows Esq
Fryeburg
Cottford Co
Maine



S. S. Clark Esq
Independence
Io

U. S. S. ALASKA 3
Valparaiso Chile 3.



T

Mr. Frank. Kelton
No. 20. Woodland Terrace -
West Philadelphia
Pennsylvania



U. S. S. ALASKA 3

Panama U. S. C. 3
55 TO COLLECT



5 Cents

T

Mrs. M. R. Kelton
No. 20. Woodland Terrace
West Philadelphia
Pennsylvania



U. S. of America

Sir

Head Quarters, 1st Regt
Fort Crawford, Oct. 21. 1831.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th Inst.

The Communication contained in my letter of the 29th Inst. ought to have been made at an earlier date but it did not occur to me untill a few days since.

I hope it will not be difficult to restrain the Menominee untill the Peace can be seen in the Spring; for I do not think that the affair between these tribes can be brought to an issue before that time. I may however go down some time this winter to see if any thing can be done before that period. In the mean time the Menominee ought to be satisfied with the assurances given them by the Treaty.

I shall feel much pleasure in uniting with you as heretofore in promoting peace amongst the

O. Lewis

Gen. & Col. W. A. R.

U. S. Agent of Gen. Affairs

Wm. A. R.

W. A. R.

1831





Longitude West of Greenwich
 Longitude West of Washington
 Longitude West of Philadelphia
 Longitude West of New York
 Longitude West of Boston
 Longitude West of New England
 Longitude West of the Atlantic Ocean

EXPLANATION.
 Coast's Topography
 Country's Topography
 Canals
 Rail Roads
 Distribution of the States and the Districts in making them refer to them

SCALE OF MILES.
 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40

THE TRAVELER'S POCKET MAP
 OF
THE CHESAPEAKE BAY
 (EXHIBITING ITS
 INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS)
 Roads Distances &c. by
 J. H. YOUNG;
PHILADELPHIA
 PUBLISHED BY
 S. AUGUSTUS MITCHELL.

SOLD BY MITCHELL & BURNAN 57 & 59 NORTH SECOND STREET

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PRINCIPAL STEAM ROUTES.

Note by Jacksonville, Fla. routes... Principal Steam Routes... Jacksonville, Fla. routes... Principal Steam Routes... Jacksonville, Fla. routes...

STEAM ROADS ROUTES

Table with 2 columns: Route, Miles. Includes entries for Jacksonville, Fla. routes, Principal Steam Routes, Jacksonville, Fla. routes, Principal Steam Routes, Jacksonville, Fla. routes...

Distort to Port Verden

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Distort to Chicago

Table with 2 columns: Port, Miles. Includes entries for Jacksonville, Fla. routes, Principal Steam Routes, Jacksonville, Fla. routes, Principal Steam Routes, Jacksonville, Fla. routes...

Distort to Memphis

Table with 2 columns: Port, Miles. Includes entries for Jacksonville, Fla. routes, Principal Steam Routes, Jacksonville, Fla. routes, Principal Steam Routes, Jacksonville, Fla. routes...

Distort to St. Louis

Distort to St. Louis... Distort to St. Louis... Distort to St. Louis... Distort to St. Louis... Distort to St. Louis...



Longitude West from Washington. 10

Observed by J.F. Kennedy

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, D. C., August 8, 1871.

Sir:

Upon the recommendation of this office to the Board of Indian Commissioners, Mr. J. L. Benson of your City, has been designated as an Inspector of flour, to be delivered at that point under contract with E. O. Standard ^{and Co.}

Notification of his appointment and the necessary instructions are forwarded to you, herewith, with the request that should the change be agreeable to you, that you cause the same to be delivered to Mr. Benson, and also give him such advice in the premises as you may deem necessary.

Should you object, however, to any change in Inspectors at that point, please ad-

Department of the Interior

Washington, D.C. Dec: 18th 1869

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 15th instant relative to your continuance as a Member of the Indian Peace Commission.

The President had expressed his desire that you should retain the position of Commissioner, and directed that a letter to that effect should be addressed to you.

It affords the President, great pleasure to learn that you have anticipated his wishes by withdrawing

Por City of Mexico

MANUEL A FERNANDEZ.

Veracruz Octubre 14. de 1873.

Sres. Heriques Llamosas y C^{ta}
No. 1073.

Se le mandó
el 26/10/73

Muy Sres. mros:

Confirmando me anterior 23. del
Sept. de este mes, careciendo de los anteriores de sus apreciables le-
tras a que se podrian referir.

a este am...

que rec...

Como...

u la ca...

Les aban...

La otra m...

Los...

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En vista...

añil que l...



Llamosas

satisfaccio...

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les suplio...

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haz, na...

para...

me...

que tengo de la venta del
que ne tomado la libertad de girar
a cargo de mi Sr. Sr. N. 22. a 30. d. p. orden de estos
Sres. Llamosas y C. B. 1073. P. C. por
\$2,500. = 070. cuya buena aceptacion y pago les recomiendo con cargo
a mi cuenta.

sin mas asunto por ahora les suplico accaminar la misma car-
gandome gustos y me refuto de V. of. no. al. S. J. I. B. B. N.
Manuel A. Fernandez.

THE WESTERN MAILS



IF YOU DON'T CATCH HIM IN 10 days

Cover above is probably the granddaddy of this type of corner cards. Used from Eagleville, Ashtabula, County Ohio. A scarce in the 1860's.



THE WESTERN MAILS



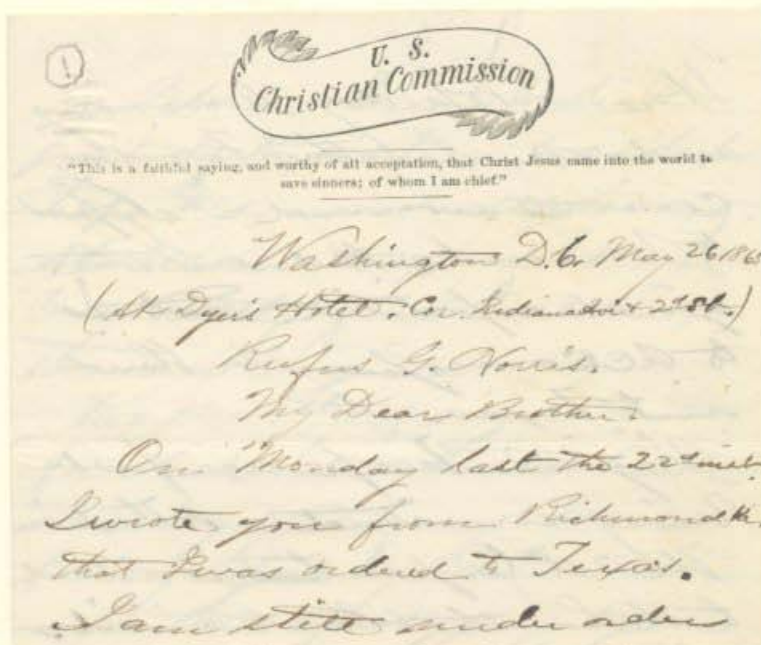
FRENCH INTERVENTION IN MEXICO

In January of 1862 the French landed a military expedition at Vera Cruz, and occupied Mexico with the approval of other European powers. They then persuaded the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian of Austria to become Emperor of Mexico. Maximilian landed at Vera Cruz May 28, 1864 and was crowned Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. The United States had warned the French to get out of Mexico but were too occupied with the Civil War to take any action at the time. On February 5, 1867 France withdrew her troops and advised Maximilian to abdicate and return to Europe with them. He refused and was overthrown by the Mexicans under Benito Juarez. Maximilian was executed by a firing squad on June 19, 1867.

The cover shown above bears a French stamp used from Mexico as per postmark CORPS EXP. MEXIQUE MARS 1864 and is backstamped PARIS 28 APRIL 64. The cover below bears the 25c Maximilian stamp which paid the inland postage from PASO DEL MACHO to Vera Cruz. The cover was probably picked up at the Vera Cruz post office by a forwarding agent or private party and dropped in the U.S. mails at New York on Nov. 25. The year date would have to be 1866 because the stamps were withdrawn on the death of Maximilian in June of 1867. The 3 cent U.S. stamp is over the imprint of the IMPERIAL MEXICAN RAILWAY.



THE WESTERN MAILS



THE WESTERN MAILS

TEXAS EXPEDITION - 1865/67

The following 18 letters were written by Albert L. Norris, Asst. Surgeon, U.S. Army. He had enlisted or "contracted", as he states, 6 months previously to May 1865. But, in 1862 French troops had occupied Vera Cruz and placed the Austrian prince Ferdinand Maximilian on the throne of Mexico. The U.S. had their Civil War and could do nothing about it, although they opposed French intervention in Mexico. As the Civil War was drawing to a close, the Texas Expedition, under command of General Phil Sheridan was sent to the Rio Grande to protect U.S. interests, while Benito Juarez and the liberals were fighting Maximilian to regain their country. The presidential term of Juarez had run out in December of 1865, but he had continued himself in office by proclamation. No elections could be held because of the Maximilian occupation. Also citizens and soldiers of the defeated Confederacy, were fleeing across the Rio Grande River, with their money, possessions, live stock, arms, ammunition &c, with the idea of aiding Maximilian and establish a colony of Ex-confederates in Mexico.

The following extracts are from the first letter under date of:

" Washington D.C. May 26, 1865 Dear Brother. . . . I wrote you from Richmond Va. that I was ordered to Texas. I am still under orders and while awaiting transportation; have come up to the Capitol to get paid, and to see the **great - grand Review of Am. Troops &c.** [May 23rd Tuesday] It is now Friday morning and ere another Friday comes around I expect to be embarked on the great Expedition that is to accompany Gen Sheridan into Texas. Virginia Troops are fast being mustered out of the service. The 25th Corps entier is ordered to the South & I am to be in it. City Point Va & Petersburg and Richmond to a great extent will be abandoned by our forces - All field hospitals will be broken up if not already in Va. Our hospital at the Point of Rocks; broke up the first of this week - only two Post Hospitals will be retained, one at Richmond and perhaps one at Petersburg. I do not know to what part of Texas I am to go but hope to some healthy locality. . . . A.L. Norris" The balance is personal matters.

2
 Fleet for the Texas Expedition
 On board Steamship "Glaucus"

Hampton Roads Va. June 2^d 1865
 R. G. Norris, Esq.

My Dear Brother,

You doubtless are feeling somewhat anxious to know where I am, and how the expedition progresses en route for Texas.

Well; we are now lying at anchor in the Roads awaiting orders, (ie) the 2^d Div. 25th A.C. The first 1st Division some 12000 left here some five days ago for Mobile Bay and we remained in Camp of the 2^d Div. at City Point

"Fleet for the Texas Expedition
 On board Steamship "Glaucus"
 Hampton Roads Va. June 2d 1865"

R. G. Norris Esq./Dear Brother.

You doubtless are feeling some what anxious to know where I am? and how the expedition progresses en route for Texas. Well; we are lying at anchor in the Roads awaiting orders, (ie) the 2d Div. 25th A.C. (Army Corps). The first 1st Division some 12000 left here some five days ago for Mobile Bay and we remained in Camp of the 2d Div. at City Point until yesterday June the 1st when at 9½ oclock A.M. it steamed away a portion of it - my boat "Glaucus" and some others as far as here, and have been to Norfolk, for officers to get paid, and now await the "Crescent", with Gen Weitzel and the headquarters on board, together with the rest of the Fleet when we expect to set sail for "Mobile Bay" where we are to rendezvous at "Fort Gaines" and report to Gen Smith & then we expect Gen Sheridan [Phil] will take command of us, in his force of 100000 men and embark the force for the Rio Grande River where we are supposed to be going into summer quarters on the Yankee frontier bordering on Mexico. My Boat the Glaucus is of about 1800 tons burdon. She was constructed and is owned I think at Gloucester Mass on Cape Ann, for sea use & C. Has an able Sea Captain....." Norris goes on about his duties in the medical department and about the excellent conditions onboard of the "Glaucus" He also says that he has been transferred " from the 24th (white corps) to the 25th colored [negro] Corps of the Army for Texas". A long four page letter. signed Albert L. Norris.

THE WESTERN MAILS

(3)

Steamship "Glaucus"
 nearly off Charleston S.C. 9 P.M.
 June 6th 1865 Tuesday Eve.
 A. B. Norris.

Dear Brother.

We have weathered Cape Hatteras
 and the Capes all along the route
 since leaving Fort Monroe at 1 P.M.
 on the 4th inst. and are expecting
 to make Port Royal tomorrow
 morning when we go in, for Water,
 Ice, - Coal, and some Medical stores.
 Our journey thus far has been
 quite a pleasant one except
 Sea sickness and some Diarrhea.

Steamship "Glaucus"
 nearly off Charleston S.C. 9 P.M.
 June 6th 1865 Tuesday Eve

" Dear Bother. We have weathered Cape Hatteras and the Capes all along the route since leaving Fort Monroe at 1 P.M. on the 4th inst. and are expecting to make Port Royal tomorrow morning when we go in, for water Ice, - Coal, and some medical stores &c. Our journey thus far has been quite a pleasant one except Sea sickness and some Diarrhea.....After reporting at Ft Gaines... we expect to embark for the Rio Grande River next to Mexico the place of our destination.....I have on board a Parke of Ambulances, some 300 men and as many or more Horses & Mules. I am the only medical officer, I have a state room and things very comfortable....Shall probably recieve them [letters] at Fort Gaines when Major Genl. Weitzel & Hdqtrs. boat arrives... A.L. Norris A A Surgeon U.S. Transport Glaucus in Fleet of 25th Army Cotps" Balance of letter about his insurance policy and business matters.

*At this point in the letter he states that "I am still a Contract officer and wish Mr Ray to understand I am not a Regimental man." In other words he was not an enlisted military officer, but was a civilian doctor under contract to the U.S. Army. This is the reason he is not listed in Heitman's REGISTER of the UNITED STATES ARMY.

THE WESTERN MAILS

U. S. Christian Commission,

Brazos-Santiago, Texas.

June 22 1865.

Mr R. G. Norris.

My Dear Mother,

After a trip of twenty one (21) days from "City Point, Va."

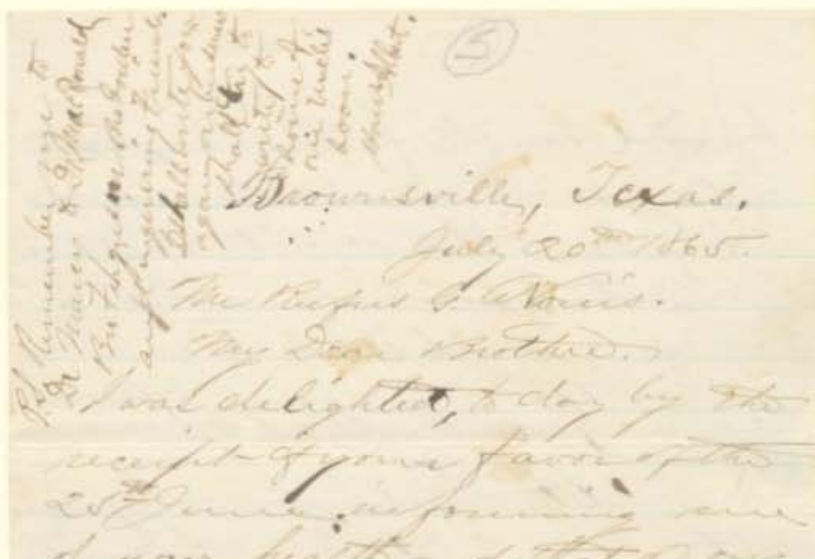
We arrived here last Evening the 21st of June and our immense fleet are fast disembarking and encamping upon the beach, 8000 are now already in camp and the rest of the troops fast getting to the shore. Our Transport - Glaucus draws some 14 or 15 ft of water and has to lie outside the bar

"Brazos Santiago, Texas

June 22 1865.

Mr R.G. Norris. After a trip of Twenty one (21) days from "City Point, Va." we arrived here last Evening the 21st of June and our immense fleet are fast disembarking and encamping upon the beach, 8000 are now already in camp and the rest of the troops fast getting to the shore. Our Transport - Glaucus transferred to "Lighters" and taken to the wharf. Our entire trip has been most delightful on board the Glaucus, Weather exceedingly beautiful - Sea calm and smooth except off Hatteras &c. We are encamping on the shore (Coast of the Gulf) not far from Mexico. It is only (9) nine miles from where I am now writing to the Rio Grande River that separates Texas (the Lone Star State) from Maximillians dominions. Just across the Rio Grande is Matamoras the theatre of very recent battles in Mex....." Balance is personal/ Letter not signed, but complete. Written on letter-head of U.S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

THE WESTERN MAILS



* Brownsville, Texas,
July 20th 1865.

"....I have been ordered to duty at this office, where I am (now writing) farther up the Rio Grande River. I am now on duty at the Medical Headquarters of the **Army of the Rio Grande**.....I arrived here this forenoon, after riding one and a half days up from the mouth of the River in the Steamboat Tamaulipas. I cannot describe to you in any fitting language, the surroundings of the river and the oddities of the scenery presented, in a ride of 125 miles or 130 miles up the Classic Rio del Norte. We left Brazos on yesterday morning and steaming out over the bar into the Gulf of Mexico, we made our course some 32 miles to the mouth of this noted river, where we passed the French & English Squaderon of War vessels, lying at anchor, and calling at Clarksville Texas, and having a very excellent view of Bagdad, in Mexico; we again pursued on course up this crooked river, perhaps half of the time in American and half in Mexican waters;how crooked it is along [the river] this far, hot climate, and level landscape in Texas, and Mexico, when for hundreds of miles, a hill is not to be found; only now and then a Sand hillock quite small. The inhabitants on both shores - Am. & Mex. seem like a semi-civillized race, living in Cots [huts?] of willow with thatched roofs, and following a rude form of agricultuer living with their herds of sheep and Cattle, & horses, and goats, & Dogs, all or many of which appear realy quite fine. This morning far down, the river in the bottom lands of Texas, I saw an exceting scene. "It was some Texans chasing down a wild Horse (with Lassos) which they finally caught in a noose" as I believe they always do, in the chase.....At Brownsville we are some 28 miles from Brazos and yet the American shore boasts of troops and soldiers for 300 miles farther up [river] to Ringgold Barracks. Just across the River from Brownsville is Matamoras in Mexico, only perhaps two miles from where I am sitting. Brownsville exclusive of soldiers has from 2000 to 2500 inhabitants. Matamoras 8 to 10000. But the American troops are superior in number, and efficiency, though "Cortinas"[Republican General] has a reputed force farther up the river on the Am. shore etc. We are of opinion that Maximillian will suspend warlike pursuits before autumn....." signed Albert"

P.S. I hope you will be glad
to hear of me and of my
plans that I have a doctor
allowed upon my part.
I have decided to
at all other things.

Headquarters Western Division of Texas.
"Office Chief Medical Officer"
Brownsville, Texas. August 15th 1865.
R. G. Davis, Esq.

My Dear Brother,

One week ago this day (Sunday) I wrote you a
brief note in great weakness of body, having
but just arisen from a bed of fever. As a surgeon
To day I am happy to address you
again in full vigor and accustomed health.
I am greatly improved, feeling better if anything
than before I was sick; that I have not yet of
course regained my flesh in the left arm.

I am so thankful to you for those papers
and letters you have been sending me; several
of which came while I was in hospital, and
were such a comfort to, and company for me.

Yesterday I received a letter from you of July 11th.
also a Sunday Herald of July 16th. As you are
so kind as to give me credit for 11 letters since
March, I will afford myself the pleasure of
giving you credit for 10 letters and 12 papers since



P.S. I hope you
will be glad
to hear of me
and of my
plans that I
have a doctor
allowed upon
my part.
I have decided
to at all other
things.

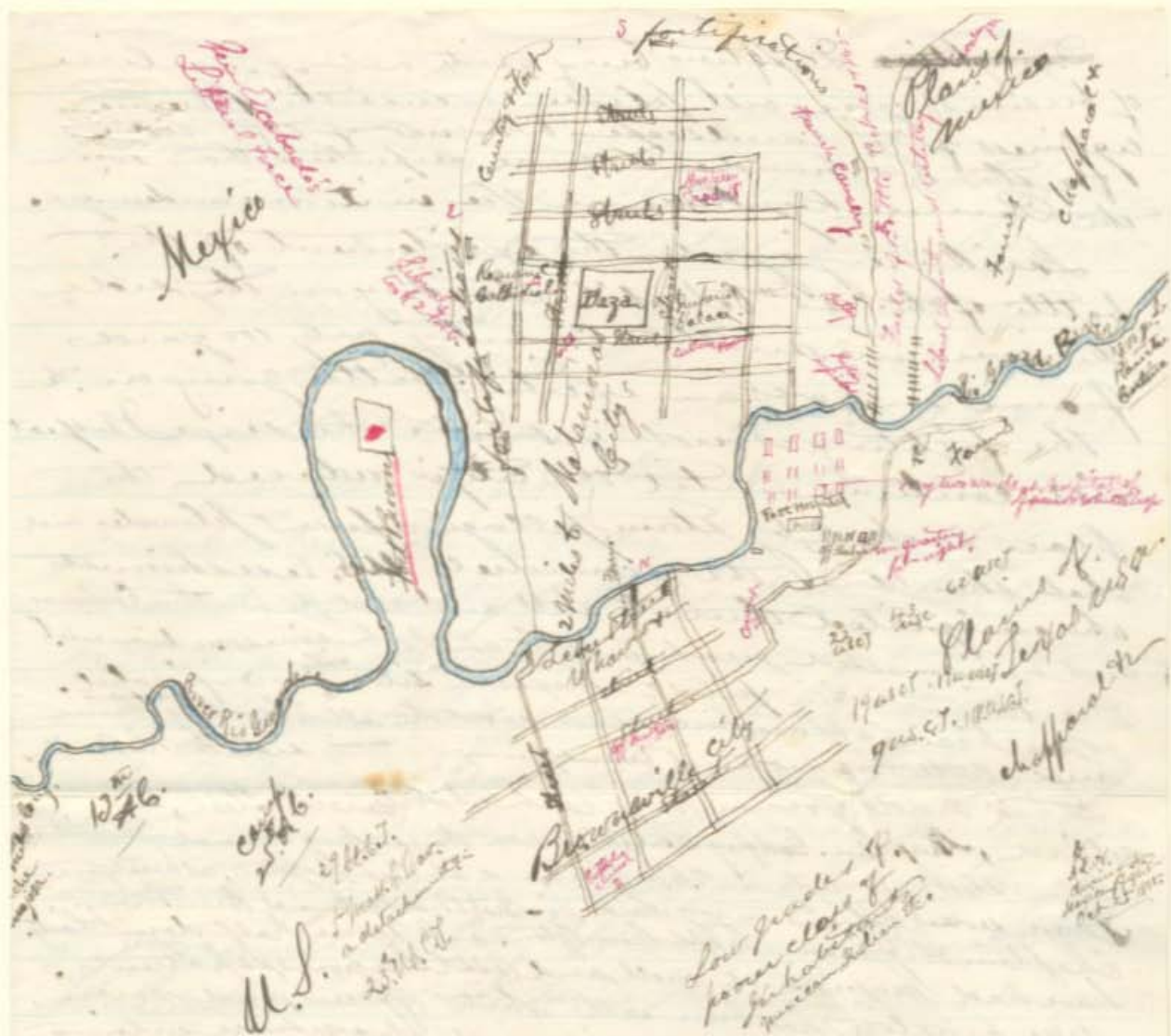
SIEGE OF MATAMOROS

"Office Chief Medical Officer
Western District Texas Oct 30 1865

Rufus G. Norris Esq/My Dear Brother

Brownsville is pretty well flooded to day with a rain storm from the Northward that has prevailed here since Friday P.M. now Monday A.M. - the wind across the plains is subsiding these (Norwards) Northerners are famous (storms or) rainy seasons on the Rio Grande. Another week has passed since last I wrote and thrilling scenes have been transpiring within sight and hearing, meanwhile &c A unusually severe (Liberal) siege has been going on against the City [of] Matamoros, since Oct 25 Wednesday last 4 A.M. Maximilian [Ferdinand, Emperor of Mexico] has quite a number of times, well neigh lost the place but not quite, as yet, the siege is still waging. Had I time to write you a description of Mexican Battles as I have seen them the past week I am sure you would be amused and indignant at their want of disciplin and action. The Imperialists of Maximilian's Army under Command of Gen Mejia [Tòmas], holding the City of Matamoros: were attacked last Wednesday in force by the Liberals, of President Juarez [Benito] Army, under Command of Gen Escabads [Escobedo] Cortinas, and "Hinojosa", () who attacked by a smart Infantry engagement in the morning at the West side of the town on the river just on the plains across the river from where I board at the hospital. It being only a few rods to the American shore and the river only about 300 feet across, at that point. I turned out of quarters long before sunrise and went to the shore to see the engagement. In Mexico as in Texas on the Rio Grande, there are no hills, all plain land covered with chapparal. (bushes full of thorns much like barbarris at home. & Consequently the fighting was done either on the open field or behind stockades bulwarks and sand forts for artillery &c. I will give you a rough diagram sketch of the position of forts stockades, and the conternding Armies the other side in full view of my quarters. SEE Opposite p. Drafting being quite out of my line of business you will please excuse the extreme ugliness of the landscape but not of the river for the Rio Grande is more serpentine than even the Pamunky River in Va [Virginia] in its meanderings. I richly enjoyed the excitement of the battle of the 25th Oct. while standing on this side of the river [U. S.], in another country [Mexico] only 100 yards from me was an exciting battle going on. &c - The fighting is not yet over - the seige I suspect will continue until the city is reduced the place sacked, by storm pillage rapine & plunder and what should be, the scoundrel U. S. Seseshionists who emigrated them to abett and aid, the Southern Confederacy and have amassed great wealth at the business are driven out! I anticipate their piles of Mexican Silver will be confiscated. Mexican affairs here are now the all absorbing them and little of note is transpiring on this side the Rio Grande. I think I wrote you in my last that General Steel [Frederick, SEE NOTE], has been relieved, Maj. Gen. Godfrey Weitzel is now the ranking General in this District. I am still in O. C. M. Office, and at Post Hospital, as heretofore &c. I have several officers in my ward, Viz-Bevt Brigadier General Armstrong [Samuel C., SEE NOTE], Chaplain Higginson, Capt Covington, and some half dozen Lieuts. have had Majors, and full, and Asst Surgeons, as patients. My practice has been with white officers, and men, since coming to Brownsville. and always since entering the service up to time of enbarking for Texas in June. We are anticipating that the next session of Congress will disband the 25th A. C. Colored Regiment, and admit such of the colored soldiers as they choose to retain to the Regular Army. But I must close. Your Brother Albert [C. Norris M. D.]"

THE WESTERN MAILS



Bismarck and Statensboth,
 are surrounded by desperadoes
 and natives who live by plunder
 booty and crime. In all
 frontier cities you will find the scape-graces
 from civilization, to have fled thither for a livelihood.

"OFFICE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER,
Western District of Texas,
Brownsville, November 5 1865.

The following is taken from the only letter to beare a printed letterhead as above: Returning from church services "I went for a short time to the office and then came round for the ambulance to return, found one mule had suddenly taken sick, had driver fix up matters while I went with Dr Monong Dr. Perry and others to hear a Mexican Band (Liberal) serenade the General of the District (Gen Weitzel) at his house. The Band consisting of about (12) twelve brass pieces played foreign airs, but not equal to "America" . They were followed by some (100) one hundred or more Mexican Soldiers Citizens &c and a street full of Men Women and children from the suburbs of Brownsville who came rushing in to town to see the Novelties &c. In an hour returning found ambulance ready to go out and that Gen Cortinas of the Liberal Mexican Cavalry was in Brownsville with many of his Staff Officers, thinking no assault would take place surely to day upon Matamoros I went round to Gen Weitzels House and procured a pass across the river and had Dr Perry's and Gen Armstrong's [Samuel C.] names added. So after coming out to hospital to dinner we (3) returned to town and crossed the Ferry taking a Coach to the plaza which we reached only by a very serpentine circuitous route amongst baericaded streets of the Imperial town [Matamoros], arriving inside the inner fortifications at the Plaza $\frac{1}{4}$ of 3 oclock P.M.. we decided to attend Cathedral (Catholic) service at 3, in fact our main object in visiting the place on Sunday. As you may be aware in almost all Catholic Countries the Inhabitants betake themselves "en masse" to their Cathedrals for safety. We; (in a foreign beleaguered city with the seige still in force only quiet as far as fighting went, for to day) proceded with- in the embrasures across the plaza (square) laid out by Gen Zach[ary] Taylor in the 46 & 47 [1846/47] Mexican struggle to the old Cathedral occupied by Gen Taylor where for a military hospital. Our expectations were somewhat disappointed when passing the Imperial Guard at the entrance to the edifice on inquiry he informed us the service would not occur till (Mangauna) tomorrow at the same hour. We however obtained permission to enter and pass down the isles of this massive Cathedral and sit near the "chancil" to view the spacious hall or church that Gen Taylor once held by force &c. Gen Armstrong who had been on the Sandwich Islands told us many things about Catholics and their rites that were novel and interesting to me. After chattering an hour we went to Globe Hotel a while saw our American Diplomat Mr Avery; and from thence visiting the square and Post Office we again took a carriage drawn by mules and riding about the City, Past Theater & Palace, Custom House & Royol Houses within the barricades of the inner works we were let out on our credentials from Gen Weitzel as U S A officers to find our way to the river and return to U.S. The suburbs have been and still are being injured seriously by the Liberal bombardment of Gen Escubado of the Republican [Juarez] Party. We passed through herds of cattle, mules & Goats that had been driven inside of their outer line of defense prior to the attack for sustenance of life during the unquestionably long seige..... The Cathedral towers are used as lookouts to take views across the imense praire of the American Forces on this side the Rio Grand and of the Liberal army surrounding them on the other side. We arrived safely back at hospital to supper before Sundown feeling well paid for our travel and tour of observation amongst the forts armaments and troops of the unfortunate Gen Mejia[Thomas], who is so faithfully endeavoring to sustain the Austrian Prince Maximillian in power over a people who should boast of the "Mexicannae Reipublicae" and not the French Province..... Monday P.M. Nov 6th" Norris then wants his brother to come to Texas and set up a mercantile store and he will set up a medical practice and that the Volunteer troops will be mustered out within the next four months and that he may not remain in the service beyond Jan. 1st. He wants him to send some personal effects and his Masonic Diploma.

H. Lewis

OFFICE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER,
 Postega District of Texas.

Brownsville, November 5 1890.

Mr Rufus G. Norris.

My Dear Brother.

It is Sunday-Evening and seated quietly in my quarters at the hospital with Dr. Terry, my roommate; I take great pleasure in this finding a favorable opportunity of writing a few lines to you, it so contrasts with the exciting scenes through which I have passed to day. This morning I arose at quite an early hour and hurried through my duties in my two wards, and then procuring an ambulance sent myself, and took two of my Patients; Gen. Armstrong, and Lieut Hawks, to church, Dr Terry also accompanying us.

We heard an interesting service at the Shawnee Episcopal church after which I went for a short time to the Office and then came round for ambulance to return, found one mule had suddenly taken sick had thrown up matters and while I went with Dr Pinney, Dr Terry and others to hear a Mexican-Band (Liberal) serenade the

THE WESTERN MAILS

(11)
Post-Hospital Brownsville Texas
January 2^d 1866.
Mr. R. G. Norris.
Dear Brother.

This P.M. I have mailed a letter to you with a Check for \$10.00 One hundred and ten dollars; a copy of which check you will please find enclosed.

I have sent the check payable to your order so that if stolen or lost no one by any means can collect it but yourself. The letter con-
c. A check was written yesterday (cont.)

"Post Hospital Brownsville Texas
January 2nd 1866.

".....I am quite weary from the excessive labors of to day. My usual duties have been unusually laborious, and then a little after dusk this evening as one of my patients; (Doctor P J. Kelly) - (Surgeon and Medical Director of the Mexican Liberal Army under Gen. Escobado; against the Imperialists) was walking along Elizabeth Street, in Brownsville City, he was shot by an Assasin's revolver and brought by ambulance again to my ward. I have this moment left him after operating; assisted by Dr's - Radmore, White, and Raphael & other Doctors H. Davis, Grinell, and Perry, being present. Doctor Kelly's wound is of a very serious character though he is still concious &c. Were he in ordinary strength I should have some hope for his recovery; but as it is with a vitiate constitution and a general want of tonicity in his system I fear for the results. Dr. K. came to my ward very sick indeed not expected to live from one hour to another (3) three weeks ago last sabbath, and had but a few days ago got out again, and you may be sure I am sad at seeing him again prostate upon my handsThe wound I judge must have been caused by a Navy revolver - it entered at Spine of Scapula (shoulder blade) fracturing it and entering deeply into the dorsal muscle if not penetrating the thorax (chest) his scapula is very badly fractured indeed.....Office C.M.O./January 3rd.....Not much news to state to day - Doctor Kelly is a live and suffering much pain - Surgeons Conover & Morong were present in the ward when I dressed the wound this A.M. ...We hope he will survive." He ends with "Please to ascertain what the effect would be on my life [Insurance] Policy if I were to go into Mexico as a Surgeon?" Albert L. Norris."

Albert L. Norris.

2

(12)

Office Chief Medical Officer
Brownsville Texas Jan 17th 1866.

Mr R. G. Norris.

My Dear Brother.

Many thanks for your Box and Contents, received to day via Adams & Co Express; which you forwarded to me three months ago yesterday. Patient waiting is always rewarded.

Everything enclosed came through in perfect order, with the Revolver did not rust, nor was the Derringer Pistol tarnished. (what a little beauty it is) I am greatly pleased with it, it is so much nicer than I expected.

The Album is very pretty and uninjured and it did me ab much good to receive the thirteen Photographs of our dear relatives that I could almost cry for joy at seeing them in my new Album. I shall very soon

Office

"Office Chief Medical Officer
Brownsville, Texas Jan 17th 1866."

"Many thanks for your Box and Contents, recieved to day via Adams & CO. Express; which you forwarded to me (3) three months ago yesterday. Patient waiting is always rewarded. Every thing came through in perfect order even the Revolver did not rust, nor was the Derringer Pistol tarnished. (what a little beauty it is) I am greatly pleased with it, it is so much nicer than I expected." Norris then lists the other contens of the box and other personal matters. He then continues " I think I told in my last of the attack upon and capture of Bagdad in Mex. Eight more colored Regiments are about being mustered out. I am having some Surgery to perform now that Mexicans are being wounded, on Saturday last I operated a second time upon Doctor Kelly and successfully. I removed the bullet and some fragments and extraneous matters - he is doing very well indeed. Dr Folsom saw him with me on yesterday and approves all &c.

A. L. Norris"

18

16 pages

Office Chief Medical Officer
 2d Post Hospital Brownsville Texas.

January 27th 1866. Saturday eve.

R. G. Morris.

My Dear Brother,

Another week is just closing and to me the most exciting adventuresome and in some respects the most important perhaps that I have experienced since I left College after graduating in March last.

I hope to find time ere the next mail leaves for the north to give you a synopsis of my history for the week just now closing.

I am very happy to acknowledge the receipt of your kind favor of Christmas Day and the 28th Dec.

Think that you in New England must have enjoyed the day full better than I did in Texas that you did not see luxurious flower gardens all in bloom and vegetables of a hundred kinds all ripe and flourishing in the ground as I did and wrote to you at the time

and also concerning the Orange trees Lemon and Citron trees all laden with fruit.

Should have enjoyed being with you at New City Hall and the old Sacred Cradle of Liberty.

" Office Chief Medical Officer
and Post Hospital Brownsville Texas.
January 27th 1866. Saturday Eve"

"R.G.Norris.....On Monday Morning Jan'y 22d I attended to sick in my wards as usual and then mounting my sorrel horse rode in town to office as is my custom, Had been there but a short time before an order from Maj.Gen. Weitzel was brought to me requesting Col Conover Act. Med. Director, to at once detail a Medical Officer to take charge of some people badly wounded the last night, about twelve miles from Brownsville in the Chapparal upon the great prairie. This Medical Officer to at once report to the Provost Marshall General who would furnish a Cavalry escort, and two Citizens as guide and Interpreters. Col Conover [Wm. Arthur?] arriving at the office soon after began to study who he would detail, refusing one for this reason and another for that, requested me that I would take his ambulance and such medical and Surgical appliances as I might think necessary and go out with the escort furnished. I at once consented and reported to Capt Conklyn Provost Marshall and was soon on my way out of town with Ambulance and my Blankets and Instruments, chloroforme and a little assortment of medicines, not yet knowing what I was to meet &c. Nor yet how badly the people were wounded.

Report of, AL. Norris M.D.A.A.S.U.S.A., upon visit to "Ranche Sabinita" to take charge of some citizen people wounded by brutal force on Evening Jan 21, 1866.

Monday Jan. 22d '66

In company with a detail from 4th Wis. Vols. and Mr. J.G. Browne and Mr. Richard Miller - Citizens of Brownsville (as guides and Interpreters), I proceeded to the Sabinita Ranche where we arrived at 2½ oclock P.M. safety with medicine, restoratives, and Surgical-appliances. Found (7) Seven wounded, (3) three severely (2 probably fatally) who were lying prostate and bleeding from fearful gashes inflicted upon them their head and face and arms on the Evening preceding. The Family relate that this was done at about 9 P.M. - by a party of (8) Eight armed Ruffians who fell upon these unsuspecting people just as they were entering the gate of their own premises and beating them in a manner to be hereafter described rode away leaving the 16 tied of men Boys and the women shut up in a small Kitchen as shown in my diagram sketch &c [p.8].

Victim No.1 Secili Gorney.

Aet' - about 40 yrs. An examination of this patient showed that his Scalp had been lacerated, cut, or punctured in some (12) twelve different places or directions, and upon further exploration I found that the Skull was fractured in several places; (in 3 or more severely). The Frontal bone was fractured to a great extent apparently across from right orbit to Middle of right parietal bone; a Slight depression was perceived between the two frontal protuberances, of an irregular ovoid Shape 1¼ by 5/8 inches in extent, but not moveable.

Exploration at about centre of right parietal bone revealed an extensive fracture, of a crucial Shape across the vertex where was a considerable depression as if caused by a blow with the hammer of a gunlock. On left of vertex in left parietal bone there was another fracture; with bones denuded somewhat of periosteum and transverse fracture seemed to be at least six inches in extent.

Full extent of fractures not found at this time. Patient unconcious and delirious. There had been a great loss of blood from extensive scalp wounds. After exploring patient under chlorofome, wounds were sewed or strapped and the cold water dressings applied ro head.

Victim No.2. Christoval Rosas.

Ae't about 35 yrs. Scalp lacerated and contused extensively, and immensely tumefied [swollen] with coagulated clotted blood. Some (15) fifteen gashes through scalp and the Skull in several places denuded of its periosteum. One fracture of the Skull at least its outer table near the superior border of the right Parietal bone. Seemed to be a streight fracture $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch or more in length and no especial evidence of depression upon the brain. Extent of fracture not acertainned fully at this time. I removed the coagula of blood and taking up the two superficial bleeding arteries - sewed up or strapped the wounds and applied cold dressings. Both arms were found broken. Ulna bone of right arm at about its middle a transverse fracture. Ulna bone of left arm at its lower fifth or about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the Styloid process compound fracture - movable fragments but no Left Shoulder very badly contused and over scapula region but bone not fractured. Patient partiably concious and sensible at times of the presence in the room of members of his Family, though suffering extreme pain.

Victim No.3. Juan Garcia.

Ae't. 30 years. Apparently struck (cudgeled) [club with round head] across left temporal region - contusing [to injure without breaking the skin] the bone and integuments [skin] but not fracturing them. Another stroke had cut a deep gash in the left cheek over malar [cheek bone] bone. Eye lids much ecchymosed. No other injuries important to this man.

4. Beniti Myjosga.

Received a blow across the neck with some weapon, badly bruising the muscles of left side; (and neck).

5. Rafail Garcia.

Was struck evidently with a gunstock or bludgeon across side of head. He was bruised but not very badly injured. He fell to the ground & feigued death on receipt of first blow.

6. A boy not much harmed only tied down &c.

7 A young man with contusion of knee caused while tied down back of (Jacal harkel) house with the other (7) seven young men who were tied with their faces to the ground, and forbidden to utter a noise under penalty of certain death; this was done prior to the return home of the first 6 spoken of who were brutally beaten and Robbed by the Bandits.

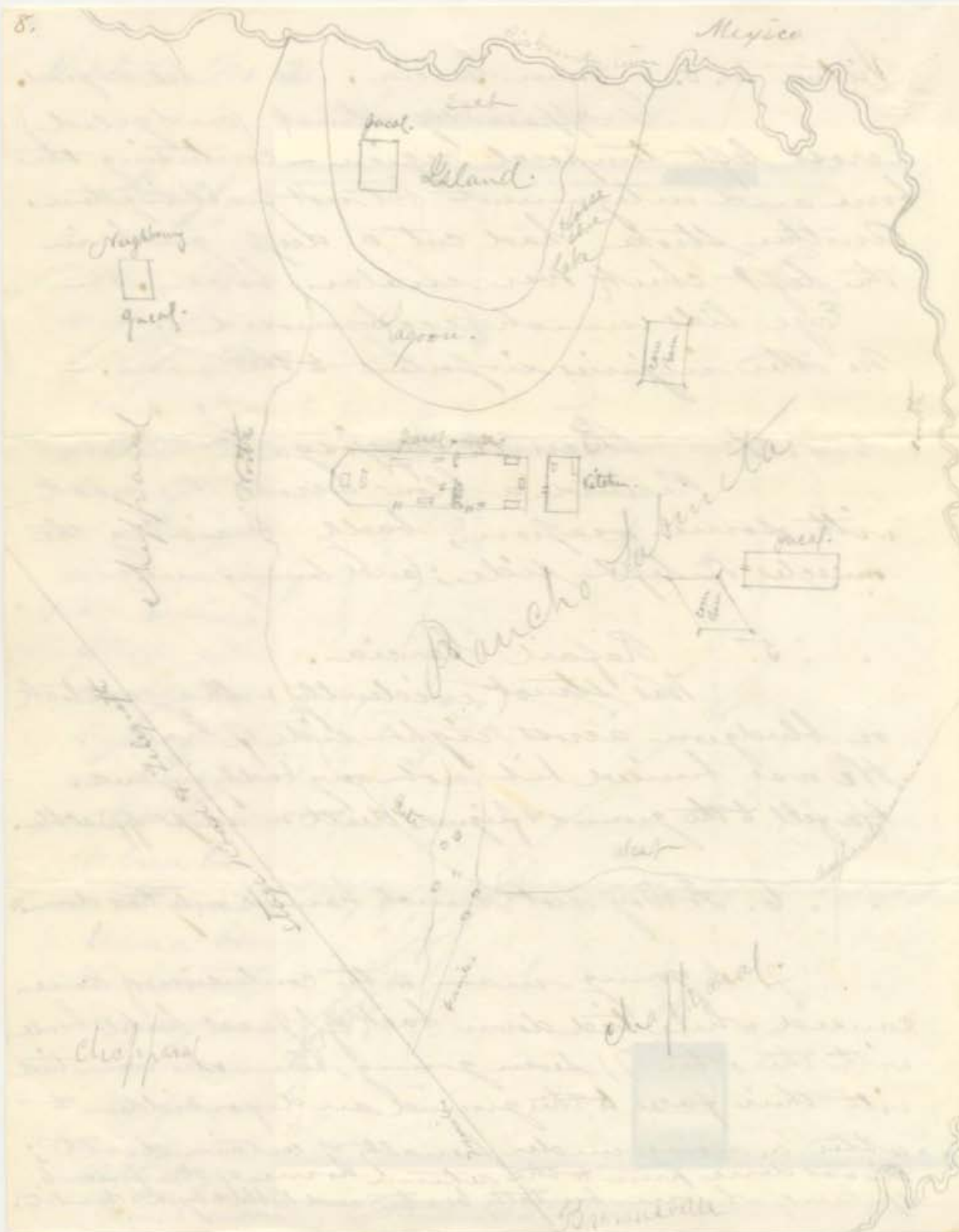
On page 8th you will (find) A rudely pencilled outline of the premises at Sabinita Ranche. In which I endeavor to show apart of river Rio Grande & The Horse shoe lake 1 mile in extent, The little Island, and the Two Haskels, and Kitchen, and corn cribs, at Sabinita - The gate or entrance where the terrible affray took place where 5 were felled 3, outside and two inside the fence. The beautiful large plantation and the Chapparal in the U.S. & Mex. soil &c. Also the telegraph line to Brazos, that I followed it, down 7 miles and then obliqued 6 miles to the Ranche.

Particulars as communicated to me through an Interpreter, by the families living on Ranche Sabinita, Texas. The men (6) (Citizens) six in number had been out upon the plains (praire) hunting for meat and game &c, and returning unusualy late 9 oclock P.M. their burden mules, laden with meat &c. Dismounting at the gate were met by (8) Ruffians. Stricken down 5 of them and tied and brutally beaten over their heads. Prior to this however, some two hours 7 P.M. they, the

Ruffians (8) eight in number, arriving at the Rancho proceeded to secure all the more defenceless inhabitants by tying the young men and grown Boys (8) eight of them with ropes (lassos). their faces to the earth and not permitted to speak under penalty of death: (this done in rear of Jacal House) They then drove the women and children into the Kitchen at the end of the harkell (house) and kept them there at the same time charging them not speak aloud on penalty of death.

The Wife of Victim No.1 Mrs S.Gorney, now (forward some 8½ months with child) near the close of a pregnancy, was seized by the wrists and a revolver placed to her bosom threatened with death if she did not tell them (the robbers) where the Silver and treasure & money belonging to the Rancho might be. Mrs Garcia wife of Victim No 3, was seized and treated in a simillar manner. Their own horses (stock) were turned loose upon the plantation during the time the above named preparations were making for cruel robbery. The private arms and weapons of the houses and families were seized prior to the return of the owners, and thrown into the Lake of the Rancho. Then stationing themselves behind the chapparal fence near the gate awaited the return of the unsuspecting proprietors - the 6. six whom at 9. oclock they foully maltreated and robbed - not only the men but the women of their property, their Silver and Jewelry and clothing (and about \$1000.00 in money) \$200.00 in specie and Jewelry from one woman alone & c. Evidence of the cruel butchery and murderous attack was found in (3) three pools of clotted blood, outside, and (2) two pools inside the gate, where they were seized, tied, and 5 of them pounded barbarously over the head and arms & shoulders - the 6th a Boy was not beaten only tied down to the ground and left confined with the others. Victim No 5 Mr Garcia gives his testimony that the Ruffians soon after this brutality, finding one of them Victim no 2 Mr C. Rosas, still breathing, said let us finish him and setting about it, did beat him over the head with his gun. "He (Rosas) exclaiming (compadre) friend 'protector' why do you so & c & c" (This brutal murderer it seems was god-father in the Romish church, to Mr Rosas' own child) and perceiving that he was known doubled the fierceness of the attack & c. Then they proceeded to raffle every trunk and bed and box in both houses for booty & c. The murderous party (supposed to be Cortina's men) were armed with guns & side arms, but no shot was fired by anyone. The Brigand party (8) eight in number were supposed by the women and (children) young men to be Librtal Mexican Soldiers [opposed to Maximilian] and in fact they claimed to be such - and told the families that they were come by order of the Yankee General Weitzel) at Brownsville to regulate them, Impirical sympathisers & c Etc, . After the above outrages so inconceivably horrid they the "murderers" regained their stock and stealing two fine horses, and silver mounted saddles, drove away again taking much booty. (subsequently abandoning the two horses, and silver mounted saddles). I of course had a tedious and severe four hours work to preform in chloroforming two men, and exploring and dressing the 7 wounded & c. An hour after sundown I took supper with the family a rude meal in a rude way of Mexican Bread - (tortars) and meat and griddle cakes and hominy with tea sugar & goats milk, After which I occupied the evening in conversation on the habits and customs of the people - of their immense herds and native acquired wealth & c. Medicines administered and patients quiet on their beds. I had my Ambulance drawn close to the (Jacal) house and slept in it with my Interpreter Mr Miller - surrounded by the Cavalry escorts a guard of vigilance outside while my six shooter, and Derenger, at my head made me feel quite safe from harm from foreign or native desperadoes. Called up but twice during the night at Rancho Sabinita I of course rested, though you may be sure I did not sleep a great deal. Next day Tuesday Jan 22d I left the Rancho and 5 patients doing quite well - But took the two first and worst cases in my ambulance to our hospital as I fear [them] to die - Will try and write you more of their history & c & c.

Mexico



Victim No. 1.

5

Lecilia Gomez.

Act - about 40 yrs.

An examination of this patient showed that his Scalp had been lacerated, cut, or punctured in some (12) twelve different places or directions, and upon further exploration I found that the Skull was fractured in several places; (in 2 or more severely).

The Frontal Bone was fractured to a great extent apparently across from right orbit to middle of right parietal bone; a slight depression was perceived between the two frontal protuberances, of an irregular ovoid shape $1\frac{1}{4}$ by $\frac{5}{8}$ inches in extent, but not movable.

Exploration at about centre of right parietal bone, revealed an extensive fracture, of a crucial shape, across the vertex where was a considerable depression as if caused by a blow with the hammer of a gunlock.

On left of vertex in left parietal bone there was another fracture; with bones denuded somewhat of periosteum and this transverse fracture seemed to be at least six inches in extent.

Full extent of fractures not found at this time.
Patient unconscious and delirious.

There had been a great loss of blood from extensive scalp wounds. After exploring patient under chloroform, wounds were sewed or strapped and the cold wet dressing applied to head.

Monday Eve Jan'y 29th 1866

I did not find time to complete my lengthy and I fear uninteresting (to you) epistle on Saturday evening so will continue now. I had got so far in my account as removing the two worst wounded Mexicans from their Ranch to our Post Hospital on Tuesday Jan 26d, and at 4.P.M.had a medical consultation over them - Col Conover, Surgeon Morong, and Hospital Staff present, gave a doubtful prognosis in both cases but commend my treatment thus far and advise a continuance of the same, with trephining [a small crown saw used to remove a portion of the skull] at some future time if found necessary to relieve compression upon the Brain. Gorney - as before, was unconcious delirious. Rosas - semiconcious and suffering decided pain of Hd. & Arms . Tuesday night called up to see them once &c. Wednesday Morning Jan 24, Consultation renewed and trephining of skull in Rosas case decided as necessary to the continuance of life for any number of hours longer. Then and there, I performed my maiden - Capital operation by use of Trephine. Heys Saw, and the Lever, removing a portion of Skull and temporarily relieving the compression &c. Gorney, only partially came to conciousness and had life prolonged for (25) twenty five hours when he died. Rosas still semiconcious &c. Thursday 12 P.M. Jan 25th Gorney Died. Post mortem revealed all that we had suspected ante mortem, and a great deal more. Autopsy revealed a fracture from right orbit to occiput [bone] (longitudinlly) and transversely across oves vertex from side to side with (3) three depressions and irregular fissures and complex fractures in the Skull &c. Base of Skull was found fractured in (8) eight places - including the orbital plates (which you may recollect were broken in the case of our honored **President Lincoln last April**) and also the Basillar [base of the skull] portion of the spheroid & occipital Bones. Large clots of Blood were upon and within the Brain. It is truly wonderful that Mr Gorney should have survived so grave injuries for (4) four whole days. I have the skull to add to my medical museum collection, &c. Thursday Jan 25 at sundown Mr G. was burried by his family and friends. Friday Jan 26th Mr Peter Gorney brother of S. Gorney - brought to me \$ 50.00 Fifty Dollars in Silver all Mexican and asked me to accept them for my faithfulness to his wounded Brother &c. an excellent fee for me, for which I felt very thankful I assure you. And he also spoke to me to go in two weeks from now to attend the widow Gorney - at the forthcoming child birth confinement. Saturday Jan 27 Mr Rosas still very low and semi comitose [conscious ?] - held another consultation and decided that he too must die, but considered trephining not necessary. Sunday yesterday Jan 28 Rosas still failing, afternoon I thought him dying and his family sent for the Priest. Patient unconcious at evening and died 2 A.M. today. Monday Jan 29 Christoval Rosas Died aged 34 years. eight days after receiving murderous wounds from Robbers - producing Concussion Contusian Compression from Compound fracture of the skull and compound fractures of both arms. A hasty examination (Post Mortem) showed his skull to be fractured from top of head across right side [of] skull and forwards to right orbit &c. Also a puncture and indenture of small fragment of left front of Frontal Bone. Also contusion of back and fractured arms &c. Some one remarked to his Brother to day that no power human could have saved his poor Brother - he said impossible - I Le docture Norris has done all that could be done for which he shall be rewarded &c &c. I coffined both patients and to day attended in person the funeral of Mr C. Rosas, with his sorely afflicted family. May the Lord spare the rest & bless them all! Thus you see some desperate Cortinas men are pilfering for gold and Silver all through this Country and successfully at times &c. I have a pet white Kid (goat) presented to me by the Ladies of Ranch Sabinita as a token of ardent approval of what I had done for their men &c. "

A. L. Norris.

ARMY OF THE RIO GRANDE



"Office Post Surgeon
Brownsville Texas Feb 25/66

A short letters mostly regarding families of the military : "I am now attending the Family of Col Wm D.Graham 1st US arty (regulars) His child is very sick also his wife unwell - Mrs G. is a daughter of Maj.Gen.Rickets, U.S.A. and a Niece of Franklin Pierce (Ex Pres). . . .My (Point of Rocks Va) Friend Wm A.Gardner, M.D. was murdered just out of town on the night of the 21st inst. I have his effects now in my room, attended his burial on yesterday in Ancient Masonic Rites beautiful, but sad & impressive. . . Military matters along the Rio Grande are fast closing up so far as the U.S.Vol. Army is concerned. . . .

Albert"

This is the only letter to have the envelope, bearing a 3 cent stamp of the 1861 issue bearing the postmark of BROWNSVILLE TEX. FEB 26.



Bro.

You are respectfully requested to attend to the funeral of our deceased Bro. **Doctor William A. Garden**, late U. S. A.

The funeral will start from the Presbyterian Church, on Elizabeth street, at half past two o'clock this day.

HIS MAJONIC FRIENDS.

Brownsville, Texas, Feb'y 24, 1866.

(11)

Post-Hospital Major Santiago Texas.

January 4th 1867.

Rufus G. Norris, Esq.

My Dear Brother.

Your favors of Nov 30th to Dec 10th and also Dec 16th letters are just received today. Their long detention in reaching me has been occasioned by severe weather encountered at sea or on the Gulf by the Mail Steamers.

Steamer "Austine" (Captain Austine) arrived, also Steamer "Blackbird", the former from N.O. the latter from Galveston, on last evening.

I think it is 13 or three weeks last Sunday since a steamboat has visited us before, then we had a number at once when St. Gen. Sherman, U.S.A. and other notables were here.

And for that period now going on four weeks I have had no opportunity of mailing anything to you.

I am truly sorry to learn by your letter that you have been ill with Intermittent Fever. am glad that you were better at last writing. I sincerely hope that ere this you are entirely recovered. And that if the climate disagrees with you will not remain but try another locality.

I shall hear more in a few days about the prospect
of the Army in the Rio Grande District; and will see my
friend Mr. Gode's partner, and other merchants, concerning
a job and then send it you
fighting.

I do not know
I hope this is
Dec 14. at which
any more for
friend J. W.
remains this letter
at his expense
that he would see

I am
of having power
I hope it will

To R. G. Davis, Esq.
Salem
Charlestown Mass.



No. 152. Cambridge St. E. Cambridge.
Mass., January 3, 1869.
R. G. Davis.

My Dear Brother,

It is Sunday evening the
first Sabbath in the new year.

I have been to Church Sabbath School
all day, but have been professionally de-
tained from the prayer meeting this eve-
ning, thinking it probable Sunday has
another call this eve, I will occupy
the interim in converse with you.

I have been reviewing the past year
to day and am full of admiration
its varied aims & ends attained, or being,
its successes, defeats, and trust that
I am truly grateful this year to that
Benevolence that has so kindly led me
along and you and ours, that we
shall continue to share his loving guidance.