

Crow Wing, March 24 1891

Dear Anna,

I must own that I have been rather negligent in my correspondence with you this winter. I have not had any good news to relate is one reason I have not written before. My health has been poor all winter and of late I have been confined to the house. I don't want to believe that I have the Consumption, but I think I am hard on it, and I have no doubt but my days are numbered.

Through my ill health last fall I was not able to do as well as I expected at the payment. The Indians paid me about \$400.00. The bulk with the exception of Attkus paid me none as they did not get paid to the full amount of their claims. So far as living is concerned I have got along quite well this winter. It cost me something to commence horse keeping, and provisions have been dear, but I have lived well this winter and within means.

My wife and children, and the girls have enjoyed good health, but have been unwell this winter. I have heard from Truman two or three times. He ~~is~~ had some trouble with Nettleton about a debt, and has given his watch as security,

for \$1000. which I am I have concluded to
send him by first chance.

To tell the truth I don't like this Country, as
well as I do Chippewaug and Sapointe. The
Indians are better. And probably the reason is
that my health is so bad. - And no relation near
by. I am satisfied that were my health good
I could make money. But under present state
of health it is a charity in Mr Rice to keep
me in his employ.

About the lumber business, the Indians here
have placed it pretty much in my hands.
last fall a man of the name of Brown went up
with eight men to cut logs and make shingle
he left with me a contract wherein he offers
\$9000 in money for the privilege, to the Indians
for this winter. But a jealousy has arisen among
the Chief how the money is to be divided.
Complaints have been made to the Dept. and
Brown is now ordered off and ordered to pay
the full price of the lumber to the tribe in general
not one band or bands.

This is as it should be, and as I want it.

A half Breed, as an Indian has a right to cut
and sell. Whites are denied the rights.

A good business could be made at it without
fail. The State has gone on to Washington for
a charter for cutting lumber. By this you can
judge of the importance of this business.

At another time I ^{will} write more fully on this
Subject, About Martell's Chiefs. They were
according to last accounts dancing the pipe dance
at St Louis, they have been making money
of themselves to fill the pockets of some cute gauds
who has got hold of them. Black Bird returned
from Cleveland when he caught the Pearl's pen
and clap. He has behaved uncommon well
since his return. I respect your friends the
Winnibagoes. I was out to see them a few weeks
ago. Uncle Sam fed them and they do nothing
but play poker most and day women and children.
Their traders Lionie Young Rice and Almstead,
are in the game had way. They urged me to
take a hand. at one time during a week I stayed
I was \$500.00 winner, but in the end came
with but \$70.00 winning. Charly Rice won one
evening \$1000.00 from Almstead. Big game!

Give my respects to old Martin and the rest
of them. I have no news to relate.

Capt Flotkin broke Na gwan ahe last ^{fall} and
turned Doctor Bump out of the lay room. The Chiefs
has requested it, Bears Heart of Mulle Leac was
made Chief instead of Na gwan ahe.

Bump and his gang were small potatoes here.
Tell Martin if they will buy me Gauthier's plan
I will come them to him.

Our love to Tobacco, and all the family.

Your Aff Cousin, W W Warren