

Manuscript Project
Transcription and Works Cited for Research of Letters 14 and 15
Charles Francis Xavier Goldsmith's Collected Papers
Box 1 of 1 Folder 4, Eau Claire MSS BS 6/3/f

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English 713
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Introduction

This edition contains transcriptions of two letters from the papers of Charles Francis Xavier Goldsmith, a collection of papers from 1821-1923 collected by Father Goldsmith, an early settler of Chippewa Falls. The collection includes correspondence between the Cadotte and Ermatinger families, letters involving Indian Agents George and William Warren, and legal documents concerning the Chippewa Indians.

The first letter in this edition is from Henry Blatchford to Edward Warren, and the second letter is from William Whipple Warren to George P. Warren. Biographical information about each of these individuals is in the following sections of this introduction. The original, handwritten letters are located in the Special Collections at the UW-Eau Claire McIntyre Library, letters 14 and 15 from the Charles Francis Xavier Goldsmith collection, Box 1 of 1.

We started with an interest in Native American affairs and the early fur traders; this led to an increasing interest in the letters involving William Whipple Warren—the letter we chose exemplifies his commitment to the Natives. This interest was further developed in the letter from Henry Blatchford because it provides a different perspective—that of a Presbyterian minister—on Native American affairs and the ethics of the fur trade. In reading this collection, we noticed continuities between this series of letters. To most effectively represent this ongoing conversation, we decided to combine these specific letters into one edition in order to give a clearer understanding of the context and content. To provide a background and context for these letters, many of these items are addressed in the following sections of this introduction.

In creating this edition, we encountered several challenges. Occasionally, some words are illegible and identities of some people are unknown. This especially applies to the second letter, which contains over fifteen different names of people and places. It is difficult to find information on people when only the last name is provided, letters of the name are illegible, or

no location or relationship is given in context with the name. In these cases, we investigated numerous city records, including census information from 1849-1850, state historical publications, and other letters in the collection in an attempt to make possible identifications. Sometimes identification was not possible; in these cases we made our best conclusions based on the information we had.

Who Was Henry Blatchford?

The author of the first letter in this edition, Rev. Henry Blatchford, is listed in his February 16, 1901 obituary in the *Ashland Daily Press* as a “Famous Missionary.” Henry was born Francois Descarreaux (likely originally spelled “des Carreaux”), the youngest of four children, around 1810 at Sandy Lake, Minn. Henry’s father was Francois Descarreaux—a french soldier in the campaigns of Napoleon who came to America and settled at Sandy Lake as a fur trader. Henry’s mother was Waubojeeg, a Native American woman thought to be a daughter of Chief Waub-Ojeeg/“White-Fisher” and Misquobonoquay of La Pointe, Wisconsin. Henry’s mother did not survive long after his birth, and his father died when he was eight years old. In 1823, when Henry was 13, he was placed in the Mackinaw Mission school, where he was named Henry Blatchford after Rev. Henry Blatchford, the pastor of a church in Michigan and his father the well-known oil manufacturer, E W. Blatchford, of Chicago; sources indicate that children who attended school at the Mackinaw Mission were named after mission supporters. Henry remained a student and apprentice at the Mackinaw Mission school until 1831.

In the summer of 1834, Henry came to La Pointe and became employed as an interpreter and missionary at the Pokegama Mission in Minnesota. According to the 1839 record of mixed blood Census of Chippewa of Lake Superior, Henry is listed as Francois Decharrault, with wife Frances Decharrault and daughter Susan—around 1837, Henry had returned to La Pointe, where he married Francis Conner, born around 1816 in La Pointe, the daughter of Thomas Conner, a

fur trader, and Susan Duchene. For many years, Henry worked as an interpreter and missionary between La Pointe and Odanah—on the 1850 Census of La Pointe, he is listed as Francois Descarreau, age 36, Interpreter; on the 1860 Census of Odanah, he is listed as Henry Blatchford, Interpreter, Mission. When the mission at Odanah came under the control of the Presbyterian Church, Henry eventually became the sole pastor of the Presbyterian mission. Throughout the years, Henry translated a series of school textbooks, scriptures, and other books into Ojibwa. We also know that Henry worked as an interpreter on the Indian treaties, as he is listed as an Interpreter on the Treaty with the Chippewa for the Mississippi and Lake Superior (1847) and on the Treaty with the Chippewa (1854).

This information about Francois Descarreaux/Henry Blatchford came from census records from La Pointe and Odanah from 1839-1870, online Descarreaux family genealogy information, and Descarreaux family researcher Jean Loehde, who provided the 1901 obituary of Henry Blatchford. Nothing is known for sure about Henry's connection with Edward Warren, to whom he wrote the first letter in this edition, or with Edward's twin brother George or their cousins William and Truman Warren, whom Henry was also acquainted with. However, several possibilities exist based on the information we have. George and Edward grew up in La Pointe where Henry Blatchford also lived, and when their father Truman died, their Uncle Lyman Warren raised them together with their cousins, including William and Truman Warren. In addition, sources indicate that as a child William Warren attended the mission school at La Pointe and later at Mackinaw, revealing that Henry Blatchford could have met William and possibly the other Warren boys at the Mackinaw Mission school. Furthermore, Henry and William Warren were both working as interpreters, as they are both listed on at least the 1842, 1847, and 1864 treaties with the Chippewa. There are many possible explanations for their acquaintance, and the tone of the letter clearly indicates that Henry most likely knew the Warren

boys since they were children. Since Henry was about 15 years older than all the Warren boys, just as he states in his letter, he felt like a father to them.

The Context: Edward Warren, Henry Blatchford, and Selling Liquor to the Natives

This letter is unique for two reasons: it is one of only two letters in the collection to Edward Warren, since he died in a hunting accident in July of 1849 (about six months after he received Henry Blatchford's letter), and it is the only letter from Henry Blatchford. Furthermore, because Henry was a missionary working among the Ojibwe Indians, and Edward and George Warren were fur traders, this letter also represents a tension of the time: the ethics of selling liquor to the Indians. To provide the context out of which Henry Blatchford writes to Edward Warren, the following paragraphs give the background and context on trading liquor with the Indians.

According to Meyer Weinberg in Chapter 2 of A Short History of American Capitalism, European settlers in America encountered several setbacks with Native Americans, namely that Native Americans refused to further themselves at the expense of others, and they insisted on only trapping as many animals as they needed instead of building up huge reserves for future trading. Furthermore, Native Americans were willing to trade expensive furs for goods that were cheap in European markets, so European settlers took advantage of this and solved the problems they had encountered using one simple device: whiskey.

By quoting several anthropologists and historians, Weinberg describes how British, French, and American traders used whiskey as a "disorienting factor" with Native Americans. According to one anthropologist, Indians "saw their land taken without proper compensation and their people captured for slaves, cheated by traders, and plied with liquor." Historians have remarked that "furs, women, and liquor were common ingredients of the French frontier in North America" and that "Liquor was the most powerful weapon which the traders could employ in

their struggles with one another.” Weinberg presents Rhoda Gilman, describing Indian life on the upper Mississippi, who writes: “One widespread characteristic of Indian culture which persisted despite the new variety of goods available was indifference to acquiring wealth beyond the immediate need...It was a major factor leading...[the trader] to introduce liquor.” According to Thomas Norton, “so many people violated the liquor laws that the authorities had little chance of effectively handling the situation.” As a result, as early as the 1770s, alcoholism was growing among the Indians.

This information demonstrates that the sale of liquor to Native Americans was seen as a manipulative strategy by traders, and was extremely destructive to the Native Americans. It is easy to see then, by 1849 when Henry Blatchford wrote his letter to Edward Warren, the problem of alcoholism among the Native Americans and knowledge of the use of alcohol to take advantage of them, is seen by Henry, being a missionary among the Ojibwe, as a negative, destructive, and immoral influence.

Who Was William Whipple Warren?

William Whipple Warren was born in La Pointe, Wisconsin on May 27, 1825. His parents were Lyman Warren II and Mary Cadotte. Lyman Warren II descended from a Mayflower Pilgrim, Richard Warren, and Mary Cadotte was an Ojibwe. William was taught the Ojibwe language at a very young age. As a young boy, William served as an official government interpreter for the government’s relations with the Indians. During the summer of 1836, the young boy went with his grandfather, Lyman Warren, to Clarkson, New York. He stayed and attended school there for two years. After that, he moved near Utica and studied at the Oneida Institute at Whitesborough until 1841. William was well educated, bilingual, and an avid reader and became a successful and highly respected and demanded interpreter for treaties and other important meetings. On August 10, 1843, eighteen-year-old William married Matilda

Aitken, daughter of William Aitken and Gin-Gion-Cumig-Oke. They had five children: Alfred A., Cordelia (Delia) H., Ann, William Tyler, and Madeline. The Warren's family moved to Crow Wing, Minnesota the fall of 1845, and William worked as a farmer and an interpreter there. The family later made their home at Two Rivers, Minnesota (now Morrison County). William was a member of the Legislature in 1850 and the House of Representatives in 1851. He spent much of his life documenting the oral histories of the Ojibwe people. He wrote the History of the Ojibway People in 1852 and it was first published in 1885. The book is the result of his life's effort to interpret and understand the natives. He spent years suffering lung troubles and died from tuberculosis on June 1, 1853 at age twenty-eight.

Almost every account of William Whipple Warren mentions his great honesty, integrity, and devotion. An excerpt from his eulogy reads, "From his kindly and generous nature, he has been a favorite, especially with chiefs and old men." He strived to understand and maintain the rights of his relatives, the Ojibway people.

Context: Native-Government Relations

Much of William Whipple Warren's life and employment centered around the Natives. Being half Indian himself, Warren was very much concerned with the Chippewa and Ojibway people and their relationship with the government. This is illustrated in the stance he took regarding the Treaty with the Chippewa, 1842. The Chippewa Indians received a Removal Order from President Taylor in 1849. In a statement to the Territorial Legislature, Governor Ramsey explained this order, "the Chippewa needed to be removed because the white settlers in the Sauk Rapids and Swan River area were complaining about the privileges given to the Chippewa Indians." The Indians believed that they were not to be denied the possession of their lands so long as they behaved themselves. The Chippewas had always been good Indians, and with this understanding they signed the treaty at La Pointe in 1842 that ceded to the government

all their territory east of the Mississippi, including the St. Croix area and east to the Chippewa River. More than likely, the Indians never knew that they had ceded their lands until the Removal Order came in 1849. Warren expressed much concern over this matter in a nine-page letter he had written (prefaced with an introduction from Governor Ramsey) to L. Lea, Commissioner of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. He expressed his determination and commitment to the cause: “Not only in their councils, but throughout the whole length of my journey, I heard in every lodge and from the mouth of every man and woman a determination expressed not to remove.”

William Whipple Warren spent his short life educating himself and others about the Ojibway people and culture. He fought for their rights and assisted in bridging the language and cultural gap between the whites and the Natives. Even in rapidly declining health, he devoted a great deal of energy to his work. The following letter from William Whipple Warren to his cousin indicates his strong ties with the Indians and his decline in health.

Editors' Notes

In an attempt to preserve the authenticity and minimize disruptions to the original letter, we used the following conventions.

- Any variation between the original and this edition of the text (e.g., inserted words) is indicated in footnotes.
- We transcribed the letters word-for-word, including line breaks. It was not possible to maintain the original pagination, but we indicated page breaks in editors' parentheses.
- We maintained original punctuation and capitalization.
- We preserved original spellings but footnoted them with modern spellings.
- Crossed out words in the original letter are indicated by “---” and footnoted for further explanation.
- Illegible letters are indicated with “-” and footnoted for further explanation.
- People and places are only footnoted once unless additional information was required in a specific instance.

LaPointe¹ Dec 29th, 1848

Dear Sir² .³

Allow me to inform you that we are all getting pretty smart and hoping that you are the same. I have nothing at all that I can write about we have had no news at all from any quarter⁴, only would I relate to you that I heard from W^m Warren⁵ not long ago, he says that he is very smart and getting better all the time, and also he has received a little money from the Indians at Crow Wing⁶, \$500.00 from them and much more from the Traders but he did not state in his letter how much he got in all, but I know this that whenever he writes, the theme of his Letter is telling about he being so well off, he says that he is kind to the Ind Agt⁷ and also to Mr. Rice⁸ and gets \$300.00 a year

¹ La Pointe, Wisconsin; One of the main trading posts for the area located in Ashland County, Wisconsin, on Madeline Island.

² Sir is Edward Warren (1823-1849), see Appendix C: Family Tree. Edward is twin brother to George Warren and friend to the author of this letter, Reverend Henry Blatchford. According to a July 1849 entry in the Chippeway River trading post journal, Edward was fatally shot in a hunting accident in July of 1849, about six months after he received this letter. For more information about Henry Blatchford, see "Who was Henry Blatchford?" in the introduction.

³ Replaced use of an unreproducible symbol in the original letter with colon; the symbol in original is common to handwritten legal documents of the time and is most likely equivalent to a colon.

⁴ Quarter; proper station, specific place, or an assigned residency. Around the time this letter is written, Edward is working with his brother, George, at their trading post in Chippewa Mills, near Chippewa City.

⁵ W^m Warren; William Whipple Warren (1825-1853), see Appendix C: Family Tree. William is cousin to George and Edward. See "Who Was William Whipple Warren?"

⁶ Crow Wing, Minnesota; named after the Crow Wing River; loose translation of "Kagiwigwan", the Ojibway name for river.

⁷ Ind Agt; abbreviation for Indian Agent.

from each, Tom Ti-⁹ is well to¹⁰ smart to [go]
running to the Indians all the time, I hope
that you are doing well in Trading with the In-
dians, I hope too that you are not carrying that
Poisonous stuff to the poor Ignorant Indians¹¹.

I think that a man who gives Liquor to the
Indians is under a great crime in the sight
of the great searcher of all hearts¹², you and
I see very plain before our own eyes, that these
(page break)

Indians are perishing fast enough without aggravating
their Perishing condition, My Dear friend in order to
see this thing plainly just for instance, place your-
self in their stead, I think he who deals out Liquor
to the Indians might just as well take a Knife
and cut their throats whenever he goes into a Lodge
and then take his furs. Now my friend you need
not argue upon this subject, because you Know
too well for it, Conscience tells you that it is
so, and every honest reasoning tell's¹³ it is so, Now
I dont¹⁴ write thus becaus¹⁵ I think that you are

⁸ Mr. Rice; Henry Mower Rice (1816-1894), Minnesota Senator (1858-1863) and candidate for Governor in 1865. William was working as an interpreter for Henry Rice.

⁹ The third letter is illegible, but it may be a "b"; Tom Ti- may have worked with George and Edward and could possibly have been an Indian Agent.

¹⁰ To; incorrect use of "to," most likely meant "too."

¹¹ See Appendices A & B; throughout the Chippeway River trading post journal, Edward and George Warren are clearly selling liquor to the Indians.

¹² Great searcher of all hearts; most likely referring to God, since Henry Blatchford, the author of this letter, is a minister.

¹³ Tell's; missuse of apostrophe in original, should be "tells."

dealing in that kind of article, no but because I
want you to beware of it, you might probably think
Like the other folks, that you cannot make your
Living unless you deal in that kind¹⁶ of stuff a little, you
know most traders are apt to think if they dont
make out very well with their goods, then they must
have some Liquor, Now my friend¹⁷ Edward¹⁸ be an honest Man,
and a good Man, try and earn your fortune in an
Honest way, and dont kill your fellow man by dealing
Poison to him, be a temperate man in all things.

You may Probbably¹⁹

think it strange that I should write thus, but I
want to do my duty towards a brother of mine I am
so much attached to you young Boys²⁰. I feel ---²¹
towards you as if I were a brother to you, and
you may²² perhaps find me a Little too plain sometimes

(page break)

but you must bear with me a little, now my friend
if you have a chance please send Francis²³ some ui-
ni-si-kens²⁴, for her toothach²⁵, and also one bear

¹⁴ Dont; ommission of apostrophe inconsistently throughout the original letter, author likely meant “don’t.”

¹⁵ because; most likely a misspelling for “because”

¹⁶ “kind” is an insertion above the line

¹⁷ “friend” is an insertion above the line

¹⁸ Sir; Edward Warren, recipient of this letter. See footnote 2.

¹⁹ Probbably; consistent misspelling of “probably.”

²⁰ Boys; Edward and his twin brother George, and probably also William Warren and their other cousins.

²¹ Stricken words in original letter. Appears to be ‘as I’ crossed out.

²² “may” is an insertion above the line

²³ Francis; Documents of the time indicate she was Henry Blatchford’s wife, originally Francis Conner.

²⁴ Ui-ni-si-kens; misspelling of the Ojibwe word winisikens, meaning a certain leaf used for tea and/or medicine.

skin, Since you left we have been expecting some one from that quarter thinking to receive the bear skin that you promise so very kindly to us,

Now I want to know how

George²⁶ is, is he as wild as ever, or is he a better Boy, since you have him under your eye, I hope that you will make something this year for rainy days, please write by the first opportunity and let me know every thing the shape of news.

Trume²⁷ had a falling out with Nettleton²⁸ this fall.

Nettleton wanted to Borrow Pom pay²⁹ for 20 Minutes so Tom Ti- got the Horse ready for Nettleton, and sure enough the Horse was borrowed, to Replunder lock³⁰, George turned Traitor, a Bill of Sale they had made as between friends was made use and George took the Horse upon the strength of that sale bill, and therefore Trume send word that he would charge him \$3.00 per day for the use of the Horse, and also Trume would not settle unless they brought the Horse down, Well after all they had to bring the Horse down to Trume and come

²⁵Toothach; misspelling of "toothache."

²⁶ George; George Parsons Warren (1823-1884); twin brother to the recipient of this letter, Edward. See Appendix C: Family Tree.

²⁷ Trume; Truman A. Warren (1827-1888), brother of William Warren, both of whom were cousins to Edward, the recipient of this letter, and his brother George. See Appendix C: Family Tree.

²⁸ Nettleton; unknown person who probably did business with George and Truman. This has to do with some sort of disagreement between Nettleton, Truman, and George about a debt regarding a horse.

²⁹ Pom pay; the name of the horse that Nettleton wanted to borrow from Trume.

³⁰ Replunder lock; slang for a receiver or a place for receipt of stolen goods. To steal from the person who stole, George had to turn traitor and go back on his word.

to a settlement, now everything is settled, now let
me close for it is getting late at night, Fare ye well for
a while, Much Love to you Both, Believe me to be your sincere
Friend.

Henry Blatchford³¹

³¹ Henry Blatchford; Reverend Henry Blatchford, friend to Edward and George.

32 Rats ³² no. 1 ³³	}	Deer Skins 3,00
106 Do ³⁴ no 2		106
73 Do no 3		32
1 mink –		73
1 martin –		<u>211</u>
1 fisher		
2 lynx @ 4t		

32	106	3,20****
<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	530
3,20	5,30	1,05
5,30	2)73	50
<u>105</u>	<u>32</u>	1,50
9,55	5	150
50		1,00
<u>150</u>	5,40	200
50	40	<u>50,91</u>
<u>200</u>	130	
13,85	1,00	
	2,40	
	<u>2</u>	
	12	
	<u>130 9,20</u>	7,00
	2*****	6.25****

Mr. Edward Warren
 Chippewa Mills*
 Wisconsin

4 1/2 --- unsmoked**
 2 smoked
 1 fisher
 12 lbs pccu skin
 1 fer y
 3 mink
 5 Rats

³² Rats; Records of the time indicate this means “muskrat.” This is also in agreement with the Chippeway trading post journal.

³³ This list of goods corresponds to the January 28th entry in the trading post journal. While his brother George was away on business, Edward apparently worked at the trading post and copied these entries on the back of this letter, later copying them into the actual journal, probably when his brother returned. See Appendix A: pg. 24 for a copy of the January 28th entry from the journal. Since this is about a month after Blatchford dated the letter, it is plausible that O-Sho-ga, listed in the 28th entry, could have given this letter to Edward on the 28th when he arrived at the trading post to do business.

³⁴ Do; Records of the time indicate this means “ditto.” This is also in agreement with the Chippeway trading post journal.

*Chippewa Mills; This location was about 40 miles north of the lower rapids of the Chippewa River, where a mill was owned by H.S. Allen. George and Edward’s trading post was a few miles from the mill, but in sight of the buildings on the river at Chippewa City.

** Omission—appears to be ‘half’ crossed out. This entry corresponds to the January 30th entry in the Chippeway trading post journal. See Appendix B: pg. 25 for a copy of the January 30th entry. “Unsmoked” indicates pounds of unsmoked deer skin; “smoked” indicates pounds of smoked deer skin. “Pccu skin” indicates pounds of shaved deer skin; “fer y” indicates red fox.

*** The direction of this calculation indicates it represents the value given for the January 30th entry.

**** The direction of this calculation indicates it represents the value given to O-Sho-ga for his goods on January 28th, probably \$13.85 or \$16.05.

***** The direction of this calculation indicates it represents the value given on January 30th, probably \$5.40.

Crow Wing³⁵ March 1st 1849

Dear Cousin³⁶,

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 health³⁷ 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 to 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 Indians³⁸ paid me about \$400.00. The traders with the exception of Aitkens³⁹ paid me none as they did not get paid to the full amt⁴⁰ of their claims. So far as living is concerned I have got along quite well this winter. It cost me something to commence house keeping, and provisions have been dear, but I have tried well

³⁵ William Whipple Warren moved to Crow Wing, Minnesota in the fall of 1845. Lumbering and fur trading were the two main industries in Crow Wing.

³⁶ Cousin; Most likely George P. Warren (1823-1884). See Appendix C: Family Tree.

³⁷ health; William Whipple Warren suffered from lung problems for many years and died from tuberculosis June 1, 1853.

³⁸ Indians; this refers to the Ojibway Indians. They are sometimes also called the Chippeway Indians.

³⁹ Aitkens; William A. Aitkens (1785-1851) was William's father-in-law. He was the Department's chief trader for the American Fur Company. Aitkens was eventually fired for not turning over funds received from an Ojibwe Treaty.

⁴⁰ amt; abbreviation for amount

this winter and within means.

My wife⁴¹ and children⁴² and the girls have enjoyed good health, but have been lonesome this winter.

I have heard from Truman⁴³ two or three times. He had some trouble with Nettleton about a debt⁴⁴ and has given his wach⁴⁵ as security

(page break)

for \$80.00 which I have concluded to send him by first chance.

To tell the truth I don't like this country as well as I do Chippeway⁴⁶ and Lapointe. 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. Rice⁴⁷ to keep me in his employ⁴⁸.

About the lumber business, the Indians here have placed it pretty much in my hands.

Last fall a man of the name of Brown⁴⁹ went up

⁴¹ wife; Mathilda Aitken (1822-1902) married Willaim Whipple Warren on August, 10 1843. See Appendix C: Family Tree.

⁴² children; Alfred A. (1844-1934), Cordelia H. (1846-1940), Anna (1846-1940), and William Tyler (1848-1900); Madeline (1853-1907) was not yet born.

⁴³ Truman; Truman A. Warren (1827-1888) was William Whipple Warren's brother. See Appendix C: Family Tree.

⁴⁴ debt; regarding a horse named Pom Pay

⁴⁵ wach; probably a misspelling for watch

⁴⁶ Chippeway; earlier spelling for Chippewa.

⁴⁷ Mr. Rice; probably referring to Henry Mower Rice. See footnote 8.

⁴⁸ employ; William often served as an interpreter for Mr. Rice.

with eight men to cut logs and make shingle.
He left with me a contract wherein he offers
\$900.00 in money for the priviledge⁵⁰ to the Indians
for this winter. But a jealousy has arisen among
the chiefs how the money is to be devided⁵¹.
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 are Indian has a right to cut
and sell. Whites are denied the rights.

A good business could be made at it without
fail. Mr. Steele⁵² has gone on to Washington for
a charter for cutting lumber. By this you can
judge of the importance of this business.

(page break)

At another time I will⁵³ write more fully on this
subject. About Martells Chiefs⁵⁴. They were

⁴⁹ Brown; possibly B.J. Brown

⁵⁰ priviledge; a misspelling for privilege.

⁵¹ devided; a misspelling for divided.

⁵² Mr. Steele; a prominent Minneapolis pioneer and businessman who worked with lumber industries on the upper Mississippi. Franklin Steele of St. Anthony negotiated an agreement with Chief Hole-in-the-Day in 1847 that allowed logs to be cut at \$.50 per tree.

⁵³ "will" is an insertion above the line

⁵⁴ Martells Chiefs; underlined three times in the original, possibly for author's emphasis; Martell was an interpreter and leader in January 1849 when eleven Chippewas from Lake Superior went to Washington to ask the government for a retrocession of some of the lands formerly ceded to U.S. in a treaty in La Pointe in 1842. See Appendix D: Treaty with the Chippewa, 1842.

according to last accounts dancing the pipe dance
at St. Louis⁵⁵. They have been making monkeys
of themselves to fill the pockets of some cute Yankee
who as got hold of them. Black Bird⁵⁶ returned
from Cleveland when he caught the scarlet fever
and clap. He has behaved uncommon well
since his return. Respecting our friends the
Winnebagoes. I was out to see them a few weeks
ago. Uncle Sam feeds them and they do nothing
but play poker night and day women and child.
Their traders Lowrie⁵⁷ young Rice⁵⁸ and Olmstead⁵⁹
are in the same bad 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 off
with but \$70.00 winnings. Charly Rice won one
earning \$1000.00 from Olmstead. Big game!
Give my respects to -l-⁶⁰ Marten⁶¹ and the rest
of them. I have no news to relate.

⁵⁵ St. Louis; this is probably referring to a location in St. Louis County, near the St. Louis River.

⁵⁶Black Bird; Bad River Chief James Blackbird (1833-1920). Also known as Chi-gaa-kii-iins. One of the hereditary chiefs of the La Pointe band of Chippewas.

⁵⁷ Lowrie; a trader who established an agency at Long Prairie, Todd County for Winnebago Indians who were removed from Wisconsin.

⁵⁸ young Rice; Charly Rice, possibly Henry Mower Rice's son.

⁵⁹ Olmstead; David Olmsted first came to Minnesota in 1848. He was a fur trader, publisher, and a friend to the Indians. Olmsted was a member of the first Territorial council and the first Mayor of St. Paul in 1854. Warren described Olmsted in an undated letter to George P. Warrens (Box 1, Folder 4), "one of our prominent men and best traders, best men in this Territory, an honest man and a man of means who is President of the Council and will probably be Delegate to Congress next year has treated me since I have been in this country like a son, he has done everything he could to befriend our poor family."

⁶⁰ -l-; illegible, but presumably a title for Mr. Martin.

⁶¹Marten; chief Waub-ish-a-she of the Chippeway River; also in charge of the Mississippi Ojibways.

Ge-l Fletcher⁶² broke Na guon abe last fall⁶³ and
turned Doctor Borup⁶⁴ out of the day room. The chiefs
here requested it. Bears Heart of Mille Lac⁶⁵ has
made chief instead of Na guon abe⁶⁶.

Bomp⁶⁷ and his gang were small potatoes here.

Tell Martin if they will buy me Gauthier's⁶⁸ place

I will come then to him.

Our Love to Tobacco⁶⁹ and all the family.

Your aff⁷⁰ cousin, WWWarren⁷¹

⁶²Ge-l Fletcher; J.E. Fletcher was a Winnebago agent; William Whipple Warren was employed as a farmer and an interpreter by him in 1845.

⁶³ "fall" is an insertion above the line

⁶⁴ Doctor Borup; American Fur Company consisted of Doctor Charles.W. Borup, John Jacob Aster, Ramsey Crooks, and David Oakes. Borup eventually worked at a trading post established by Pierre Chonteau Co. in St. Paul.

⁶⁵Mille Lac; the M` De` Wakan, or Spirit Lake, of the Dakotas; one of the largest and most beautiful bodies of water in the Minnesota Territory; midway between the Mississippi River and the head of Lake Superior on the eastern border of Crow Wing county. The Ojibwe established their permanent homeland around Mille Lac Lake between 1745-1750.

⁶⁶Na guon abe; Feathers End; the civil chief of Mille Lac.

⁶⁷ Doctor Bomp; although little about Doctor Bomp is known, there is a reference to a Doctor Bomp in an October 26, 1836 letter from George Ermatinger, "I am afraid Doctor Bomp will have a hard time before he gets to the Pointe. As to news he will inform you of all that has passed here. The Indians are very much disappointed with the Commissioners, as to the manner they distributed the money. A petition is going to the President. It will go hard with Schoolcraft, as it ought."

⁶⁸ Gauthier's; probably referring to the residence of either Francois or Joseph Gauthier.

⁶⁹ Tobacco; the meaning of 'Tobacco' is unclear. Warren does not speak of tobacco in this letter before this reference. It could be a nick-name, a pet's name, or a code-word for something else.

⁷⁰ aff; most likely an abbreviation for affectionate

⁷¹ WWWarren; William Whipple Warren

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Appendix

- A. pg. 24 “A Journal of the Chippeway River Outfit Prairie Post: 1848-1849.”
- B. pg. 25 “A Journal of the Chippeway River Outfit Prairie Post: 1848-1849.”
- C. “Warren, Cadotte, and Ermatinger Families.” Family Tree.
- D. “Treaty with the Chippewa, 1842.”