



3962 Brighton Ave.,
Los Angeles, Calif
May 10, 1931.

My dear Dorfman:

I am mailing you, enclosed two prints of the Rice county house, one of the barn, one of the Manitowoc county house, and am including a print that was made from a negative made from the four brothers' picture. This latter just shows what the group is like. As you see, one end of the negative is too dense. I believe I can lend you one of the original groups, if it should be needed.

The views of the Rice Co. house were made in 1890, and the barn at the same time. The barn stands directly south of the house. To the left as you face the house. The porch of the house is the whole, length of the front (east side) of the house, and had a railed (but not roofed) balcony above. The balcony, or upstairs porch, was accessible by an open stair at the north end, and by a door on the middle of the east wall, upstairs. Two ways.

The house had a large unobstructed attic, under the fairly steep roof, and it was reached by a good, substantial stair. The basement was full size, limestone walls, and high--over eight feet. In the north end was a large fireplace of brick and served by the north chimney. In the basement were pumps to the well and the rain-water cistern. Pumps were also the kitchen sink. The basement

had high windows and doors exposed to the west where the ground sloped away from the house.

This is the house referred to in the MS I had, as primitive, with access to the upstairs by ladder. The basement was built in 1866, and we lived in it the fall and winter, 1866-7. It was divided up by temporary partitions. Under the high temporary roof was ample storage space. It was as good living quarters as could be found for many miles around on the prairie.

The first year in Minn. we lived in a log house that had been built on the 90 acre farm we bought in section 10, where Ole Hougen now lives. It was a well- built story and half house, not at all a cabin, had shingle roof; and the stair was in two rises with a landing between. It furnished very fair accommodations for the family, though much smaller than the Manitowoc house we had moved out of.

In the fall of 1885 we quarried building stone for the basement sec. 12, and during the winter hauled it to the building site. The summer, 1866, father built the stone walls himself; and fitted it up as living quarters, and we moved into it, in the fall, 1866, about threshing time, as I remember it.

Truly yours,