

went on a fishing trip to Niobrara creek ? & passed thro town Niobrara. A large panther was hanging in front of one of stores, recently killed. At another time I accompanied my father to the Lower Brule Agency to visit an old Indian name forgotten, suffering from trachoma. The Indians treatment was to put brass filings into the affected eye. When the ice broke in river in spring we used to see deer, coyotes on the ice cakes & at times houses & boats drifting by. The river was constantly encroaching upon the site of the Post & while we were there it was abandoned. Taps was blown a salute fired & the garrison boarded a steam boat. I have forgotten whether the Gen. Terry or Helena. We next were stationed at Fort Randall. I obtained a photo of Sitting Bull while there but did not see him. Think he was at Standing Rock by that time. I was by now six or seven years old. Remember little about Fort Randall except that there was a stone church there. At one time I killed two skunks in the school yard with a club & as a result was sent home from school & I think was only pupil not receiving a prize at end of session. Later our dog & I chased a skunk beneath our house, the dog also went beneath the house with results that were noticable for many days. We remained at Fort Randall but 4 mo. Embarked upon a steamer & went up the river to Fort Bennett about 10 miles from the mouth of Cheyenne River. The buildings there were frame construction but many of the older log construction remained. At Fort Randall there were a number of block houses , with loop holes & overhanging second stories. At Bennett the circles of a Mandan village stretched for miles along the first bench above the river. About four miles from the Fort there was a stockaded enclosure with a large mound at two corners full of earthen circles. I picked up a small buffalo fish fashioned out of petrified wood there. There was also a