EVENING NEWS. April 5, 1888.

ON THE WARPATH.

On the morning of Aug. 18, 1862, as I was carrying a pail of milk from the cow yard to the house, on the farm of William Miller, seventeen miles from air, and after it was eaten she began to prepare food for the siege. Pork was boiled, flour stirred into cakes, coffee made and put into jugs, and be-fore night she had enough to last a dozen men a week. Meanwhile the rest of us had not been idle. Some New Ulm, Minn., I saw a covered wagon coming across the prairie as fast as two horses could pull it. I handed the pall into the house, called to Miller and his wife and by the time large posts were sunk in the earth beore the door, leaving space enough we were out doors the wagon had for only one person to come at us at a time that way. Four more loopholes were made in the walls, and then three stopped at the gate. It was a vehicle beloaging to a man named Saunders, living about nine miles away, and he and his family were inside. We had not yet reached the gate when he about powder mines in the vicinity, running a slow match to each one. The only over the Indians could have in the reighborhood was in the rear of the

"Fly for your lives, the Indians are on the warpath!" He would have driven off with that, ort, where we had mined the roch We had left a big hole, which was a natural rifle pic, and our footholes did not command it. They would be sure but one of his horses fell down in the harness from exhaustion. There was to occupy this place, and the mea pre-pared a torpedo, holding fifteen pounds of powder, and hid it under the rocks Saunders, his wife, and four children and I never saw people so broken up. It was fully ten minutes before we could get their story in a shape to un-derstand it. The Sioux rebellion, which many pioneers had predicted, had broken out at last. For the past three months we had noticed a change and the dirt on the brink of the pit A trench was then dug to and under the wall of the milk house, and by means of boards a train of powder was aid. When the earth had been filled a again no one could have told it had in the demeanor of the Indians, some een disturbed. of whom called at the house almost

We were as ready as we could be at o'clock, but the sun was just going daily. They had become impudent and threatening, and many of the older settlers were becoming alarmed. Some town when we saw the Indians approaching. By that time more than would have given up their farms, but there were a few smart Alecks who 8,000 settlers had been butchered or driven from their homes, and the war rode about the country saying there was no danger, and that there were which was to sweep over an extent o country 200 miles long and sixty broad and alarm 30,000 settlers, had opened enough soldiers in the forts in the state to thrash all the Indians in the in all its flerceness. The band which whole west. These men were, as we afterward found out, interested in the now approached numbered only six-teen warriors, and as soon as they saw sale of real estate, and of course they did not want any sensational reports sent east. But for the civil war then raging there would have been no upour strength they fired a few shots at ong range and passed on to the east At dark we entered the fort, arranged the goods and provisors to give us all the room possible, and by and by unned in to sleep while one man was left on watch. This was Miller. He rising of the Indians. Uncle Sam had his hands full in the south, and hundreds of our young men had enlisted to fight the Confederates, was to watch until miduight, and then call one of the young men, but at 11

Saunders had received warning at daylight from a settler on horseback, whose whole family had been butchered. He was a teamster, and his wagon then contained a part of a load of stores which he was hauling out to a storekeeper in a new settle-ment. He had unloaded some of the stuff and flung in household goods and provisions, and had driven at such a pace as to exhaust one of his horses. Miller and his wife were Germans, cool and phlegmatic. Their all was invested right there. While they knew that trouble was at hand, they did not want to abandon everything at a mere alarm. We had three horses in the stable, and Saunders begged oard for one to take the place of his exhausted beast. He was bound and determined to get on, even if he had to go on foot, and Miller consented to let the horse go. While he was bein, harnessed in Saunders asked us to throw out some of the merchandise and lighten the vehicle. We took out four kegs of powder, about 100 pounds of lead, fifty pounds of shotguns, and some groceries and the horse was no sooner in the traces than Saunders drove off

out of sight, our enemies numbered at least fifty. After trying us with fire at a gallop: "Well, what shall we do?" asked Mrs.Miller, as we stood looking after they drew off to wait for daylight, and the wagon.

sleep. When daylight came our enemies were "Stay and fight," replied the husband. re-enforced by a band of twelve and, these new comers brought with them

I was then a boy of 16, and had been with the Millers over a year. There was never a day but that some of the Stoux came along, and in many in-stances they had eaten of our food stion the uprising

hiding, dodring and traveling since the evening before, and who had come a distance of twenty miles. They were bachelor homesteaders, and all had rifles, revolvers and plenty of am-munition. It was a welcome addition to our party for we now feit that we would have to stand a seige. Mrs. Miller brought out the pots and kettles and cooked dinner on a fire in the open air, and after it was eaten she began

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but he did not think it as serious a mat ter as it turned out to be, and with true dutch grit ne proposed to stick. We went in to breakfast, ate as heartily as usual, and when we were through my employer said: "Now we will get ready for the In-

dians." As we went out of doors we saw three columns of smoke in different directions, showing that the murderous redskins were at work. Miller had 160 acres of land, almost every acre as level as a floor. We had just finished building a milk house over a spring, about 300 feet from the house Around the spring was about two acres of broken ground, underiald with rock, and we blasted out sufficient of this to fay up the walls of the milk house. Miller was a stone mason by trade, and his work had been well done. The house was pretty large, being eighteen by twenty-four inside the walls, and the walls were perhaps a foot thick. The roof had been planked and then sodded, and the door was of heavy sodded, and the door was of heavy plank. The place would make a capi-tal fort, and while I was carrying into it such things as Mrs. Miller directed, the husband used a crowbar to make loopholes in the walls. In the course of an hour he drove five or six, and then he bored two in the door with a

We carried in all the provisions in the house, followed by the clothing and the bedding. While we worked and the bedding. While we worked we kept our eyes open for sight of In-dians, but it was 11 o'clock before we age them coming. They were not more than a mile away when we re-tired to our fort and barricaded the door. All the livestock had been furned loose and driven away, while the fowls were flying about on the prairie. There was very little left in the house, and the worst they could de was to burn it. When we shut our-selves up I missed two of the kegs of powder, but to my querry as to what had become of them Miller made what had become of them Miller made no reply, except by a laugh. He had been working by himself all the fore-neon, digging boles and running trenches, but I had been too busy to

notice just what he was up to. There were thirty-two mounted indians in the band which came up and among them they had five fresh scalps. Every one had plunder of some sort from the settlers' cabins, and two or three appeared much the worse for liquor. They had probably seen us enter the milk house, for they rode right up to the cabin without fear. We could see them plainly, and among the gang we picked out several who had been supplied with food and amunition. There were yells of rage from those who dismounted and entered the house to find, it stripped, but presently a conncil was held in the one big room. After a few minutes an Indian appeared around the corner of the house with a white rag tied to a stick, and when he white rag tied to a stres, he called out had waved it a few times he called out that he wanted a "talk." Miller shouted to him to come on, and he ad-vanced to within fifty feet of the fort before he stopped and called out: "All come out. Indians no hurt

Datchman." 'Is there war?" shouted Miller.

"No war-no war! Young men got drunk and ride around, but no war. Indians all like Dutchman." "If you like us, then go away and leave us alone!" saouted Miller. "Will you come out?"

"No. "Then we burn house and kill all

cattle! The Indians were two appieus to get at their bloody work te waste much time in parleying. The messenger was no sooger under shelter than the gang began to howl and whoop, and while some opened fire on us from the windows, others made preparations for a bonfire. In about ten minutes the house was on fire, and the Indians crowded together on the far side. It was a log house, and the roof fell in be-fore the sides were hardly ablaze. The slight wind blew the smoke and sparks directly over us, that we could not see five feet. The Indians continued to yell and dance for a time, but suddenly

there was a terrific explosion and a dozen screams of terror. I was looking into the smoke cloud which now and

He lived about eight miles away, and had frequently called at our house The third prisoner was a settler none of us knew. About an hour after day-light the Indians sent him forward with a white flag to demand our surrender. He came up within thirty feet of our

o'clock he quietly aroused the garri-

son and whispered the news that a large number of Indians had arrived. We were scarcely awake before being made aware that our fort was being

closely inspected by spies. When we had carefully pulled the plugs from the loopholes we could see and hear them moving about in large numbers. By

and by we heard a number of them on the roof. They were probably lavesti-

gating to see how to burn us out. At a signal from Miller we took up our guns carefully poked the muzz'es through the loopholes in the planks,

and at another signal all fired. We killed or wounded two Iodians by the

volley, and the others hastily departed

Half an hour later two or three of the reds crept up to the barricade in front

of our door with arms full of light

wood and started a fire. The posts were only half seasoned, and all that afternoon I had kept them wet with

water. They charred a little under the flames, but the fire would not take hold From the number of Indians we could

see, and to judge by the yells of thos

the most of them probably went to

two settlers' teams and wagons and three prisoners. Two of the prisoners, a man and woman, were killed soon

after coming up. I knew the man.

barricade, and then halted and told us what he had been commanded to do. A dezen or more Indians had their ifles on him, ready to shoot in case he attempted to play them false. He was a big powerful fellow, and I never saw such grief and anxiety in a human countenance. In a voice loud enough for the Indians to hear, he demanded our surrender, but in whispers he warned us not to, as every one of us would be butchered. Miller replied to him from a loophole, telling him to go back to the Isdians and ask their best terms. When he returned he was to come as close as possible, and at a signal he was to spring forward, and the boor would be open for him. He was pretty cool fellow, in spite of all his sufferings. He returned to the Indians, onsulted for a few minutes, and when he came backto us he approached withhe came backto us he approached with-in twenty-five feet before they should to him to halt. Then he told us that we would be permitted to take ano of the teams and leave the country; that the Indians loved us; that all they wanted was their land. We had our come so dy to cover him and I say him

guns ready to cover him, and I saw him draw a long breath just before the signalcame. As Miller uttered a whistl one of the men pulled open the door, and at the same instant the stranger made a spring for shelter. It was a veritable spring for life. The Indians fired at him, but too late, and he pitched in among us without a scratch. Then began a seige which lasted nine days and in which over forty Indians were killed or wounded. They gathered in the quarry, as expected, and Miller exploded the torpedo and killed four and badly wounded a dozen. They tried every possible way to burn us out, and on one of these occasions, while they were congregated together, Miller sprang another of his mines and killed several of them. Five or six different times they displayed a flag of truce and thought to coax or threaten us into surrender, but Miller

was wise enough to refuse to trust them. From first to last they fired about 4 000 bullets at our fort, over a hundred of which lodged in the door, but none of us were wounded. The eseiging force never numbered less than thirty-five, and one day the num-ber was over 100. On the ninth day troops came and drove the fiends off, and it was only then we learned of the widespread devastation. Not a house nor barn had been left standing for miles and miles in any direction. Crops had been destroyed, stock shot down and settlers butchered or driven off all over a great section of the state. We had been the only ones outside of the towns to make a fight, and by our standing a seige we kept a large force of the savages from going against the settlers. settlers.

Islam's Vigorous Life.

I have been told by an esteemed English triend (a well-known student of the religious system of the east) that the Christians of America and Great Britain will be shocked at the thought of any educated person de-fending the doctrines of Islam; for whilst Buddhism, with its positive

atheism and idolatry, can claim a respectful consideration amongst English speaking races, the religion of Mohammed, with all its grand con-ceptions of God, is regarded as too gross and too sensual to admit of a consistent defense. And I readily be lieve it, for no man can read, as I have done, those ignorant and bigoted attacks on the faith which are scattered broadcast over British India, or the numerous English anti-Moslem works in the British Museum, without feel ing assured that the day has not yet come (athough it is drawing near), when the despised Moslem can obtain an impartial hearing. And yet it was Islam which inspired

the minds of such men as Ibu Sina (Avicenna), Abul Walid (Avesroes), Abu Bakr (Avempace), and Al Ghazali,

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