

Lincoln, Nebr., Jan. 11th, 1915.

Mr. Harry L. George,
St. Joseph, Mo.,

Dear sir:-

Replying to your letter of the 8th, just received and answering fourth paragraph of your letter, in reference to my having offered Mr. Bracklein the Rattle at \$7.50, but priced it to you at \$8.50. Of course this does not look right to you on the face of it, but here are the circumstances. My original price on this rattle was \$8.50, it having cost me \$7.50 plus express etc., so you can see the margin was very small and I thought \$8.50 a very reasonable price. I offered this piece to a party in Wisconsin, and while he wanted the rattle he said he would only want to pay me \$7.50 for it, I then had him return it, and I sent it to you at the same price \$8.50 and you returned it. The difference between what I offered it at and the price the man in Wisconsin offered was only \$1.00 and as I was selling him several other pieces I thought I would allow him to take the rattle at that price. The list that I sent Braecklein was a carbon copy of a number that I had made up to send out to parties, and a different list than the one I sent you, although containing the same articles. To make my list complete of the articles I had on hand and sold I included the rattle and put the price down at what I had offered it to the man in Wisconsin, or rather what he had offered me and I accepted. I aim to make the same price on every thing to everybody, that is, treat all alike and I would give you the advantage of any thing just as quick or quicker than some stranger or some one I did not know, so I hope you will understand this matter and not think I was offering any thing to you at a higher price than any one else, and my list I think will prove that. The fact of the matter is I ought to have gotten \$8.50 for the rattle, in order to come out about even on it, but I thought I could even up on some other article that I might dispose of to this party.

Now in regard to the shields and war bundle. I want to do what is right with you on them, but I do not want to lose any money on them and you can not blame me for that. Of the two shields I sent you pictures of, one belonged to Little Star and one to Saucy Calf. My original price on each of these shield was \$100.00 each. I sold one of these shields to Francis La Flesche, the one belonging to Saucy Calf at \$90.00 cash. The one belonging to Little Star I kept and still have and I consider the best shield of the two, it has a cover while the other one did not have, also it has finer decorations and is more symmetrical and better formed and made. It is made of buffalo hide with a covering laced on both sides around the edge, and in addition has another cover that fits over the entire shield and decorations, it has many human hair locks on it, feathers, and a porcupine quill work ornament suspended from the center, it has been slashed and mended and I consider it the best specimen I have ever possessed and a better one than the Saucy Calf shield. I would be willing to let you have this shield at \$90.00 or a reduction of \$10.00 from my original price as listed, although I ought to get \$100.00 for it. I have one other Osage shield of buffalo hide coverings which I have no picture of and which is a fine specimen. This one has a grizzly claw pendant at the top, and has pendants of painted buckskin thongs with feathers of all colors, bells, hair lock, beaded star, etc. etc. I have this one listed at \$80.00, I would be

Lincoln, Nebr. January 7th. 1915.

Vol. II pg. 264 E'
willing to let you have it for \$75.00. And in regard to the Winnebago war bundle I would be willing to let you have it at \$75.00, both the last pieces I have listed at \$80.00, but I could not take less than \$75.00 for them and that is quite reasonable and they are both rare pieces.

Now you could take these three pieces and pay for them as you can, pay me as much as you can down and say \$25.00 or \$30.00 a month, I of course would like to have \$50.00 down. La Flesche paid me cash, and I did not make him any such proposition as I have made you. You understand these shields can not be had except through the death of the owner or destitution of the owner, in the case of the Sauch Calf shield, he did not dispose of the shield but his people after his death, and the Little Star shield was not disposed of by Little Star him self but was disposed of by his heirs or family after his death, so you can realize such things are the most rare and sought after. I want to deal fair with you, and as to prices I have made you the best that I can and really ought to be cash at those prices, but if you want to take the pieces and pay me what you can down on them and the balance monthly I will let you do so, and I would hesitate to make this deal with every one,

I trust that you will be able to figure out that you can do this, and let me know soon as possible, I really think you should have these three pieces in your collection and believe you will always be glad that you own them, as they are all Museum pieces.

Very truly yours,

Wm. Thompson
of Beatrice Co.
Lincoln, Nebr.