



Gilbert L. and Frederick N. Wilson
Papers

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1st day

Mandan to Camp? 15 miles - prairie chicken + 2 jack-rabbits -
prairie pocket-gopher - etc -

2^d camp - to Sanger, old Mandan site - camped and sketched -
saw ~~to~~ racoon tracks and ~~one~~ ^{one} ~~crossed~~ ^{crossed} Missouri -
go beach here - bathed and tried warms etc for echo.
beautiful spot. cotton wood here etc.

3^d camp Sanger to Mollinger explored old site specimens etc, and
then on to Washburn - crossed Missouri in flat boat
cable ferry and on to Coal-harbor -

4th camp Coal harbor until Monday A.M. then on to the

5th (4th camp) ^{6th day} Camp Break-down 12 miles, here saw hawks
heard coyotes and were here one day.

camp break down to Elbowoods 55 miles over bad roads.
Bad lands very beautiful and fine
passed, Indians in tipis at Ft Berthold and at
Armstrong - here heard dancing drum beating
roads heavy - Indian laughed at head-gear
further on rattle-snake - photo - then on to
Elbowoods - reaching there at 10 P.M. Tipis lighted
up by fires and fine effects. - two Indians
raced by on horses. got to agent + found a
place to stay for night. - left wagon out
in the open.

7th day on to Independence - passed earth lodge
Belonging to Miss "Kidney" it was locked but we went up on the
roof and looked in. It was in fine preservation. We took
photos. As it started to rain we pushed on to ferry at
Independence. got there at about 3 o'clock P.M. and it was
seven o'clock before the sweep-propelled flat boat came
over - there was no approach but drums and
had awful time to get aboard - Indians worked hard
got over in few minutes then on to mission house,
here met Good-bird who later interpreted for us.

8th day

9th Shultz's took
on drive next day got fixed up for camp G.I. got introduced to Indians
Saturday more introductions etc. Sunday no church - had
6 Indians to dinner - and talked about things. civilized names

10th Monday Monday went to Short Bull's. told story of Creation and
told of things of old time took picture on truck board had
drive nearly done up by it. saw Indian dilling pipe etc.
had dinner with Indians; dried meat not much good.

11th Tuesday went on drive with Shultz's to see old graves
and

to
9000



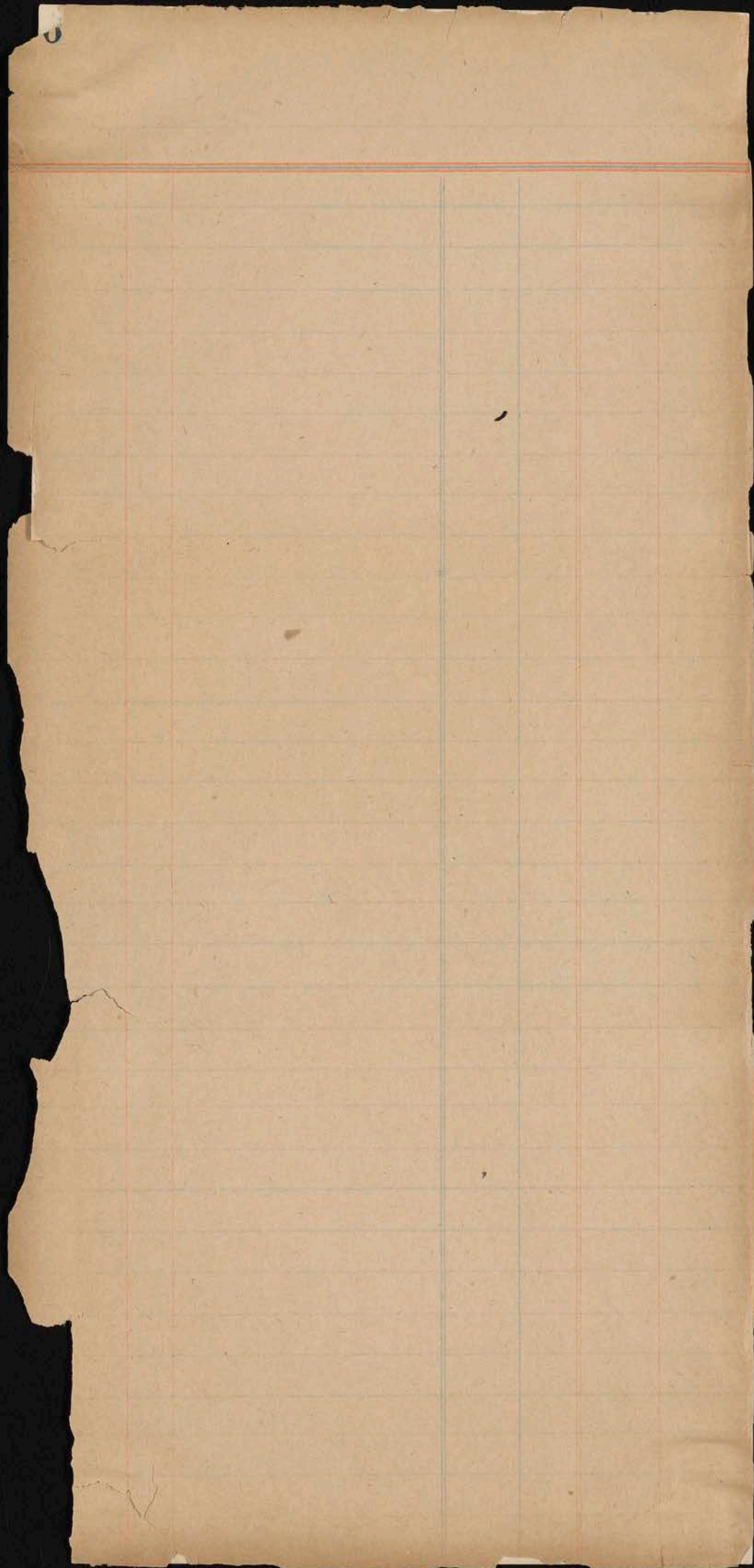
I

Mandan Fair camp. Sept 28 1903
Bartering for curios.

II

Same. Note tepee supported by
newly cut poles & not the regularly
carried ones. Hence the irregular app
eance.









Date Sept 29 ~~IX~~ Place Mandan ^{Fort} Camp
 Same scene as No VIII but from an
 other angle. See thicket in rear and
 always choosing a low place - is the
 bank of some slough or brook or river

~~XI~~

Indian & squaw inside of tent. Note
 pipe cleaning stick in his right hand
 The round spot  over squaw's head
 is an honor mark  on outside of tent
 showing that canvas and equipment one
 horse stolen from enemy. Place & date same



XVI

Farrs Camp Sept 28 1903.

The large tent again interior view looking out of the door. Note the slanting sticks lacing the canvas over door. Also the meat hanging on drying frame. I am sitting on left of door with Indian child. We couldn't line the camera for interior and exterior view at once.





XVII

Mandan Fair Camp Sept 28 1908.

Myself in large tent again sitting by Oquaw, her little child a half bred on extreme right. Meat on drying cord over her head. The tent had a double canvas about 4 feet high running around the interior next the ground hence the darker background just behind us. This insured better privacy at night when interior was lit by fire.

Date - Sept 28 1903.
Place - Mandan Fair Camp.

Old man sitting in door of tepee. Typical position

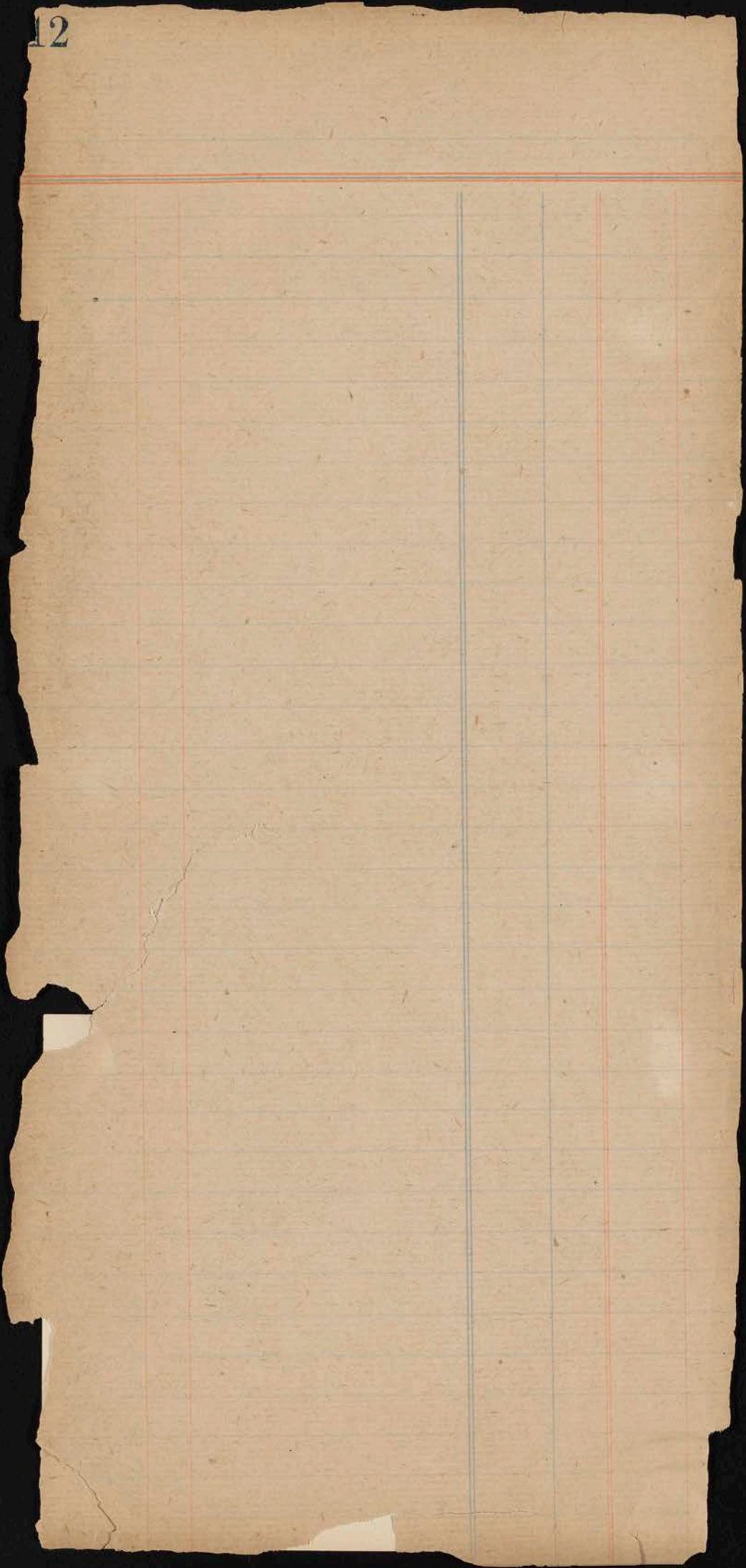


IV

Date Sept 28 1903
Place Mandan Fair Camp

Woman and
tepee. Observer
Smoke flap held
in place by poles
and string in front. The latter is often
omitted. Position near big tree a buffalo edge of







V

Erecting a teepee. Poles being put in place. Squaw has hidden behind the left hand tent so I could not photograph her. Place and date as in III and III

VI

Some 5 minutes later Canvas was just drawn in place when squaw saw me and ran behind tent again. Place & date same as III and III





VII

Largest tent I ever saw. Poles 24 ft long pitched in typical position near thicket. Observe anchoring of smoke Flap.

Date Sept 29 1903. Place Mandan Fair Camp

VIII

Another tent erecting. Tent on right same as No VII. Note squaw among things under frame work of poles.

Date and place as above.



XI

The large tepee again. Length of pole, 24 feet. Base of pole to foot of smoke flap 13 feet. From foot of smoke flap to crossing of poles 7 feet. Height from middle of tent floor to crossing of poles, 18 feet. Diameter of interior floor, 21 feet. Note squaw just entering tent. This is a beautiful tent but I fancy a typical one could present a little more even figures - thus -
Length of pole 24 feet.
Length to crossing of pole, 20 feet.
Diameter 20 feet.
Height from floor to crossing of pole 18 feet.

Mandan Camp Sept 28, 1903



XIII

Sept 28 1903, Mandan Fair Camp.
man sitting on tent. Typical
construction. Note door flap thrown
out. In this case the flap is
a side cloth.



Man sitting on
teepee
Sept 1903



XIV

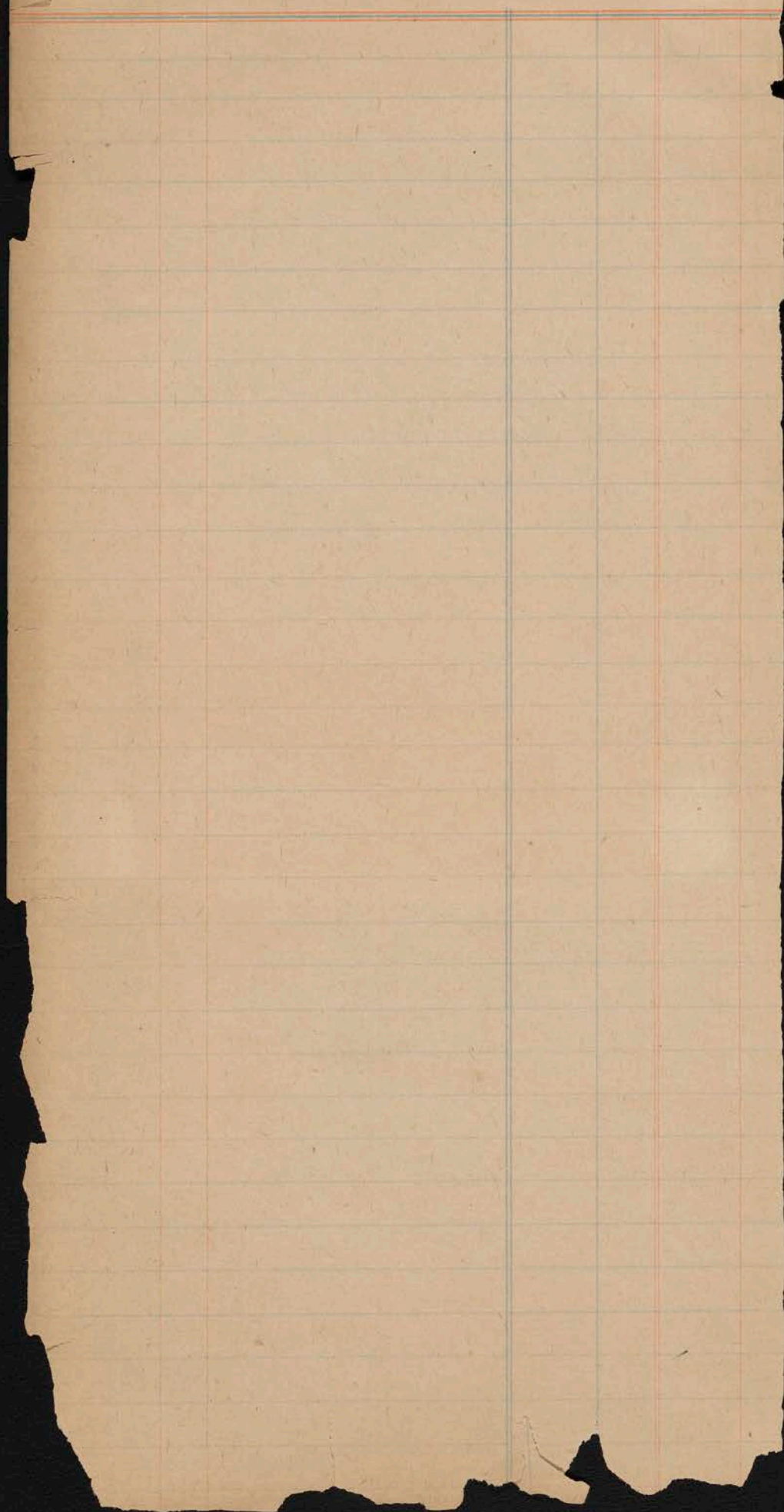
Mandan Fair Camp Sept 24, 1903.
Same scene, squaw further
out. On right hand side just
above slaying post of squaw tent
will be seen meat hanging
on pole of drying frame all
most hid by the tent

XV

London Fair Camp Sept 28/1903

In tents and Indian po-
 lice Many Indians now use
 the wall tent as requiring less
 poles. The third from the left
 is typical type. When poles
 are permanent, they are taken
 along in wagon, formerly drag-
 ged by horses in travois shape.
 Such poles are rounded and used
 for years hence shape of tent as
 on extreme right. When the
 Indians are forced to cut their
 poles out of thicket they are
 irregular and often too short
 hence the result as in the
 tent in front of which the ma-
 jor police stands.



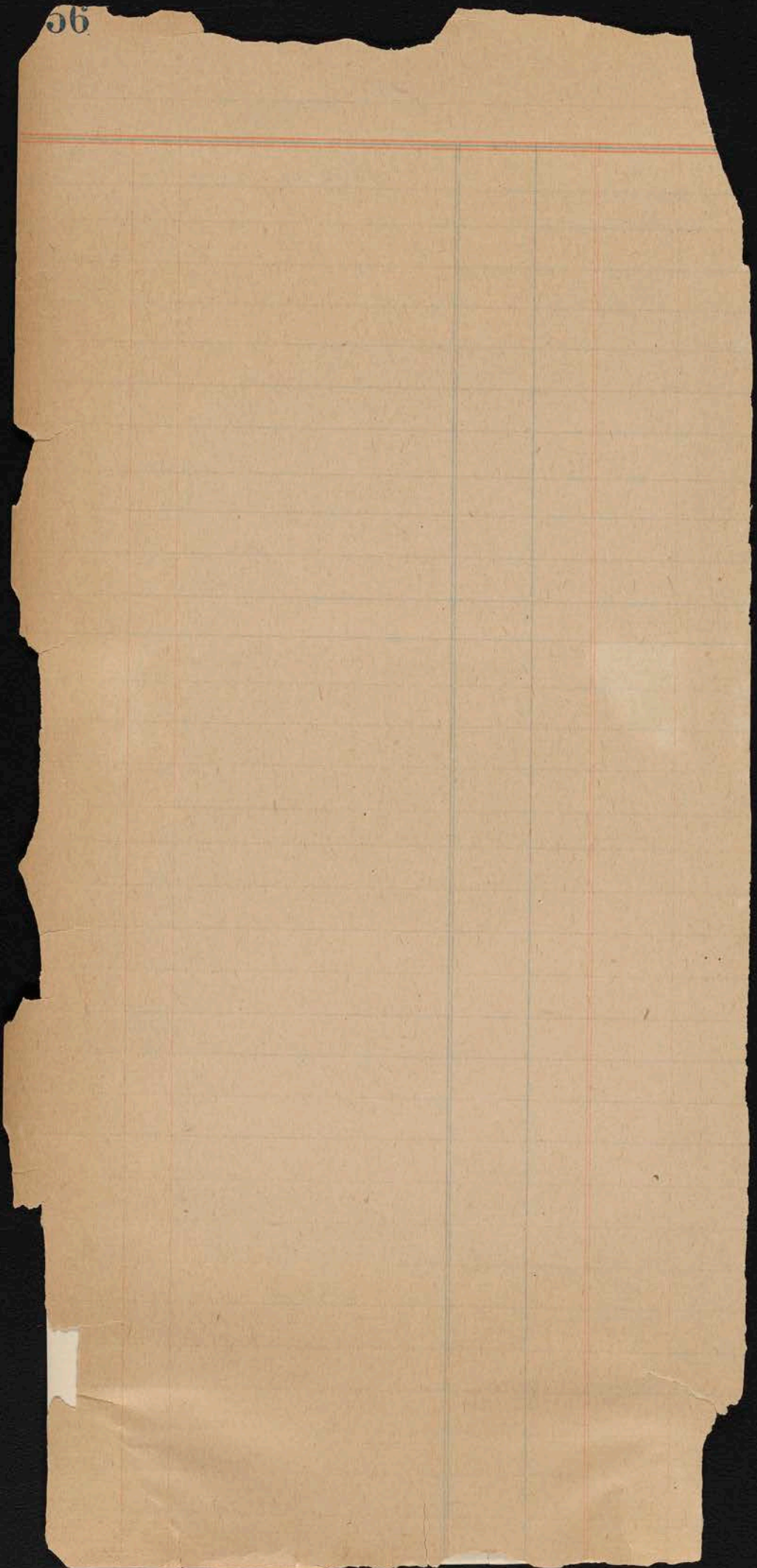


XVIII

Mandan Fair Camp. Sept 190

Indian village camp in
distance. From an old moga-
tor. Note squaws on ground.







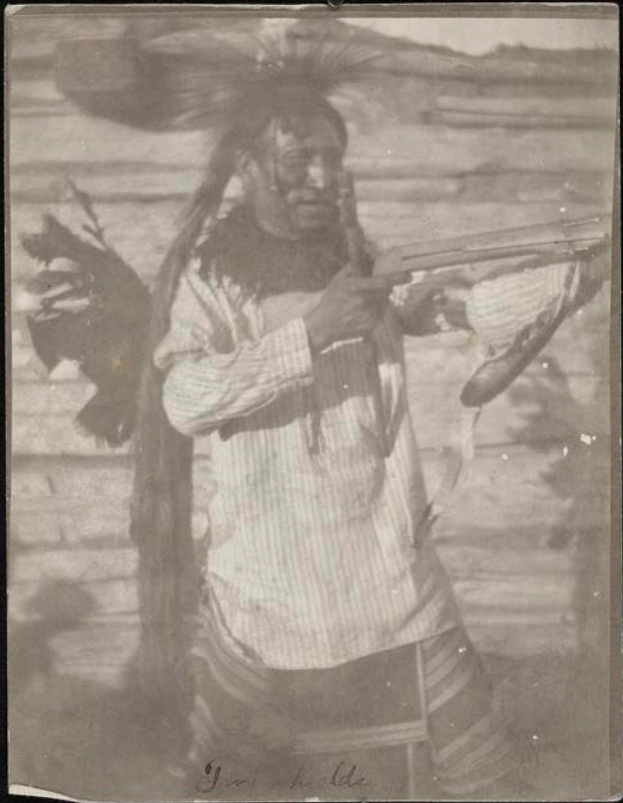
~~XXIX~~



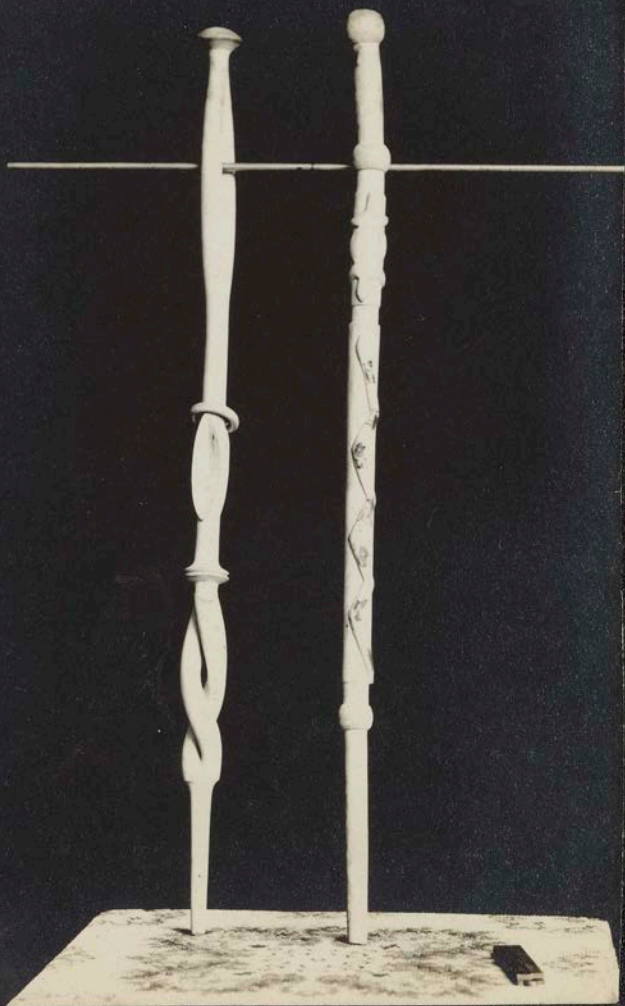


XXIII
No ~~XXIX~~.

Scene on Heart River Near
Mandan.
Tepee & baby,



Jim - holds



Old

Carved walking sticks
or old men's canes
from Ft. Yates Reserva-
tion.



(Gna)



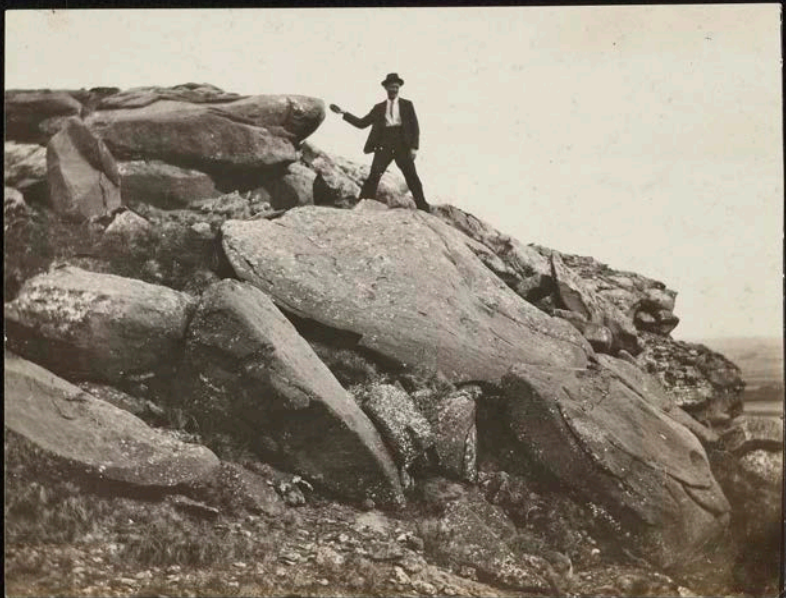
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(4)











Saturday

I send pictures numbered on backs. Here with legends & enter under number.

Date of all of them, Oct 21 1908. Leaves nearly all shed in thicket. All pictures are on bank of Heart river one mile from Mandan. The rivers here always have a thicket on each bank $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide or narrower if small stream.

- I Indian tepee on Heart Bank. Action lanternman with my gun & bunch of rabbits. Indian child with hood on head - white dress - entering wigwam with face away from Kodak. I sent this picture yesterday.
- II An open place in a thicket with high grass ungrazed & uncut. In this case the place is near edge of thicket toward meadow.
- III In thicket, open place near river. Observe here sparse grass and leaves on ground. This spot I think had been divested of verdure by a former fire ^{perhaps}

IV Typical scene in middle of thicket
grass, and thick grass-like shoots
of small bushes, good grazing for
deer in winter.

V. "An open place" in the thicket
with meadow in foreground. Note
small pond.

All these scenes selected with
great care.

Mine

G L Wilson

a.

Site of old Mandan Village.
Old Ft. Abraham Lincoln, to right
at bend of river, lying in space be-
tween telegraph pole & distant
house. ^{Heart water emptying into the Missouri.}
latter in extreme background.
b. Mode of tent-pinning Dakota
Sioux.

Taken Fall of 1903.