

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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(Minnesota - Dakota War of 1862) Cut Nose, Who in the Massacre of 1862, in Minnesota, murdered 18 Women and Children and 5 Men [Carte-de-visite]

Stock#:92623Map Maker:Whitney / Martin's Art Gallery

Date:	1862 (circa 1864)
Place:	St. Paul
Color:	Uncolored
Condition:	VG+
Size:	2.25×4 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

The Most Famous Photograph of One of the Dakota Chiefs Hanged at Mankato.

Famous portrait of Marpiya Okinajin, or 'He Who Stands in the Cloud's, better known as Cut-Nose, before he was executed at Mankato for crimes committed during the Dakota Uprising of 1862.

Cut-Nose became infamous in the aftermath of the Uprising for his role in attacking white settlers in the Minnesota River Valley. As noted on the CDV, he was alleged to have killed 18 women and children and 5



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men.

Heard, writing in the *History of the Great Sioux Uprising and Massacre* described Cut-Nose thusly:

The most repulsive-looking prisoner was Cut-nose, some of whose acts have been detailed by Samuel Brown. He was the foremost man in many of the massacres. The first and second days of the outbreak he devoted his attention particularly to the Beaver Creek settlement, and to the fugitives on that side of the river. I will give a single additional instance of the atrocity of this wretch and his companions. A party of settlers were gathered together for flight when the savages approached; the defenseless, helpless women and children, huddled together in the wagons, bending down their heads, and drawing over them still closer their shawls. Cut-nose, while two others held the horses, leaped into a wagon that contained eleven, mostly children, and deliberately, in cold blood, tomahawked them all---cleft open the head of each, while the others, stupefied with horror, powerless with fright, as they heard the heavy dull blows crash and tear through flesh and bones, awaited their turn. Taking an infant from its mother's arms, before her eyes, with a bolt from one of the wagons they riveted it through its body to the fence and left it there to die, writhing in agony. After holding for a while the mother before this agonizing spectacle, they chopped off her arms and legs, and left her to bleed to death. Thus they butchered twenty-five within a quarter of an acre. Kicking the bodies out of the wagons, they filled them with plunder from the burning houses, and, sending them back, pushed on for other adventures.

The National Portrait Gallery, London, relates the following biography of Cut-Nose:

Marpiya Okinajin, or 'He Who Stands in the Cloud's, was better known as Cut-Nose. He and and his band surrounded fleeing white settlers near Fort Ridgely, but were stopped from killing them by a Sisseton Dakota woman who had married a white Indian agent. After the Dakota conflict, Cut-Nose and 37 other Indians were hanged in Mankato on 26 December 1862, the largest 1 day execution in U.S. history. The bodies were dumped in a mass grave but a number of the other bodies were dug up the next day. Dr William Mayo, founder of Mayo Clinic in Rochester, dissected Cut-Nose's body and used the skeleton for anatomical research. 138 years later, his remains were ceremoniously buried, with all the honours due a chief.

Detailed Condition:

Albumen photograph mounted on CDV card with printed label. Civil War-era canceled tax stamp on verso. Printed label of Martin's Art Gallery on verso (added to the print circa 1864-65). Small stains and minor wear at the edges.