

No. 327. A-E-CHA-GA.—Convicted of participating in the murder of an old man and two girls.¹

1862 trial transcript © 2012 Walt Bachman

Capt. Bailey, 6th Regt. M. V.
Lt. Olin – 3rd Regt. M. V., Judge Advocate
Adjutant Heard – McPhail's Mounted Rangers – Recorder

The Military Commission was duly sworn and A-e-cha-ga a Sioux Indian was arraigned in the following charge and specifications, viz

Charge and specification against A-e-cha-ga a Sioux Indian

Charge –Participation in the murders, outrages & robberies committed by the Sioux Indians on the Minnesota frontier

Specification –In that A-e-cha-ga a Sioux Indian did join with and participate in the murders robberies and outrages committed by the Sioux Tribe of Indians on the Minnesota frontier between the 18th day of August 1862 and the 28th day of September 1862 and particularly in the Battles of the Fort, Birch Coolie, New Ulm, and Wood Lake

By order of Gen.l H.H. Sibley
S.W. Fowler Lieut Col.
A.A.A. Gl

Witness
Pay Pay

Prisoner states –

At the battle of the Fort, I fired 2 shots at the houses. I was at the battle of Birch Coolie. I fired once at a horse.

Godfrey, sworn, says –

I saw prisoner in a house where the Indians killed an old man and 2 girls.

Prisoner says –

I was there, but I don't know who shot them.

And there upon the case being closed the Commission was cleared and proceeded with their finding and sentence.

The Military Commission after due deliberation on the foregoing, the evidence being closed and Commission was cleared and proceeded with the finding and sentence.

The Military Commission find the prisoner, the said A-e-cha-ga, a Sioux Indian, as follows –

Guilty of the specification

Guilty of the charge,

And sentence him to be hung by the neck until he is dead.

[signatures of Mil. Com.]²

Riggs Synopsis December 1862

32. A-e-cha-ga (*To Grow Upon*) is charged with participating in the murder of an old man and two girls; made neither confession nor denial.³

¹Whiting-Ruggles Report to Abraham Lincoln December 5, 1862.

²Dakota Trials Records. Microfilm and holograph records in Center for Legislative Archives, U.S. Senate Records, National Archives. Transcription by Walt Bachman. See corresponding digitations of microfilm by John Isch.

³*Mankato Independent* December 26, 1862, "Confessions of the Condemned" p. 2. Editorial introduction reads: "Rev. S. R. Riggs has kindly prepared for us the following synopsis of conversations held with each one of the condemned prisoners, wherein is contained much interesting information."