

March 10, 2005

I finished reading the books by Vilhelm Moberg on the Swedish immigrants for the second time. I got a lot more out of them on this reading than I did the first time. In Moberg's books the immigrants settled near Taylors Falls which made them especially interesting to me. In the last book, *The Last Letter Home*, he wrote about an Indian uprising that started on August 17, 1862. Even though the book is historical fiction, I think that date may be correct. The Indians had been driven further west as the land had been settled but for the most part they still got along with the settlers. In Moberg's book, the Indians had been promised money for their land and I believe that agrees with the history I have read. When the money was delayed again and again the Indians faced starvation. The money finally arrived August 18, 1862, but it was one day too late. On August 17, 1862 they staged an uprising, and some settlers were killed. In the book the families he was writing about went to an island on Chisago Lake and hid. I remembered reading about some of our family hiding from the Indians also, so I looked that up today. On June 1, 1989 Emma Nylander Crowe wrote, "During this time, the Sioux uprising was making life dangerous for the new settlers. He (A. P.) recalled spending three nights on an island in the Minnesota River during one of the scary times." If this was in August of 1862, A. P. would have been almost 6 years old. If the dates are correct it would have been before his father left to fight in the civil war in 1864.

Hildur Dyer
2005