

2
so he, Sitting Bull, saved his trapped skins, mostly muskrat, and instead of trading them to the fur buyers for trinkets, as did most of the Indians, that he took his pay in money, and saved it. When he had what he thought was enough money, and helped, if I remembered aright, by other Indians, his friends and relatives, then he went to the white man's school, and White Feather specified the University of Missouri.

"From what I can gather from all sources, my understanding of the matter is that Sitting Bull in no sense was a 'college graduate' or even a 'college student' in the usual sense of that term, but that he learned merely the rudiments of white education in the university, about what the average white boy would get in the first half a dozen grades of the public school. How long he was a student there I do not know, but from one to two years, as I understand, and also it is practically certain that, due to his total ignorance when he entered, and his one or two years time there, that he of course he did not graduate.

"At that time, now two full generations ago, Missouri was not only a frontier state itself, but was more or less chaotic because of the Civil War conditions, also at that time practically no frontier school, or other new institutions kept complete records, and even many of the then incomplete records in schools, courts, and other places, have ~~been~~ been destroyed or lost. Sitting Bull's name may yet be on the records of the University, or may not, or he may be entered under some other name, either Indian or white, which last is quite common, or the record may have been incomplete, or lost. Of all this I know nothing, nor have I ever had the opportunity to seek it all out on the ground. That his name of later days 'Sitting Bull' is not today on the records of the university is not even presumptive evidence that he did not attend the university. The fact that he could write, and probably but not certainly read, and the Indian account of his having gone to that particular college, is presumptive evidence that he did so. At that time he was an obscure Indian boy and his attendance would have attracted no particular attention.