

September 15, 1929.

Mr. Ray Long,  
Editor, Cosmopolitan,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Following the success of my KIT CARSON, I am now at work upon a Life of the great Sioux Indian leader, Sitting Bull.

As you are aware, the tragic mystery of the Custer disaster on the Little Big Horn in June 1876 is a subject of perennial public interest. In particular, the part played by Sitting Bull has always been in dispute, owing to the desire of the officials of the Indian Bureau to malign the memory of the chief and to the reluctance of the Indians to tell the truth.

After a year of research and study, I have the authentic story. I can tell your readers the exact terms in which Sitting Bull prophesied the destruction of Custer's outfit a few days before, what Sitting Bull did the night before the attack, where he was when Reno struck the village, how he was armed, dressed and all his movements and commands during the fight. I can quote the prediction Sitting Bull made after the battle as to the results with regard to his people. The truth of this story is vouched for by Indians now living who were with him during the whole time, and is available for the first time.

The Indian is receiving a great deal of attention just now, owing to the investigations conducted by the Senate, and as Sitting Bull was the leader of the non-progressive group and predicted the very conditions now being investigated, I think the subject of unusually timely interest.

Would you be interested in this material? If so, how long a story do you wish? In view of the striking nature of this brand new historical material and its great popular interest, I do not wish to release it for magazine publication without substantial remuneration.

Please let me hear from you.

FAITHFULLY YOURS,

STANLEY VESTAL