

The Woodley

Washington, D. C.,

July 31, 1929.

Capt W. S. Campbell,
English Department,
University of Oklahoma,
Norman, Oklahoma.

Dear Captain Campbell:

Your very interesting letters of July 15 and 17 received. Enclosed find the only information available at present in the War Department records; will send any additional information if received.

First, as to Sitting Bull: You ask many questions, but as you are writing a history and not an Indian tale I must be careful as to facts. You must remember that after forty-seven years it is not likely that I should remember conversations, etc. However, a few things stand out in my memory as Sitting Bull was a very remarkable man -- such a vivid personality. He stood before you square-shouldered, deep chested, fine head, and the manner of a man who knew his ground. He looked squarely into your eyes, and spoke deliberately and forcefully; with me he never raised his voice or spoke fast but occasionally in conferences with visiting Chiefs I would lose the trend of conversation, as they used idiomatic expressions and spoke rapidly. The doings of friends, their travels, and their fortunes, their dealings with agency officials, comprised most of the talks -- the difficulties of farming on poor land, stock raising difficulties, etc., were mixed in with reminiscences of hunting buffalo, deer, etc.

Now as to your definite questions as to Sitting Bull; If he had a hump it must have been very slight, as he usually had a blanket wrapped around him it tended to hide any slight hump if he had one.