

March 28, 1930.

Mr. Frank B. Linderman,
c/o The John Day Company,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

I have read with great pleasure and no little profit your splendid book, "American", which I have been asked to review for the Saturday Review of Literature. Though I have had only slight contact with the Crows I have done a good deal of work with the Cheyennes and the Sioux and Arapahoes and can perhaps appreciate the problems which confronted you. You solved them admirably.

Just now I happen to be doing a life of Sitting Bull, the Sioux leader. As you are doubtless aware most of the stuff printed about him is poppycock. I have spent a good deal of time among his people in Dakota and I am now trying to check up on their information by gathering what I can from surrounding tribes. I shall be very grateful if you can help me to opinions of reliable old Crow Indians who may have known Sitting Bull and to any information which would help me date battles and councils in which he is known to have taken part. I know that on one occasion after 1883 he and a number of other Sioux visited the Crow Indians and compared notes on fights in which both had engaged in former years. I have the Sioux account of this council and would very much like to know what the Crows have to say of it. Some of Sitting Bull's enemies used to claim that one of the Crow chiefs insulted him at this meeting in a rather gross way, but others there present deny this. Those who made the allegation are unfortunately dead.

If you knew Sitting Bull personally I would be very happy to receive your own impressions of the man and especially would like to know his rating as a man and a chief among the Crows. In case you cannot assist me in the matter, could you suggest the names of any old timers who might be reached through an agency interpreter? The Commissioner of Indian Affairs is cooperating with me in the matter. I shall greatly appreciate any aid you may give me as I am anxious to round up all these details in the states before pushing into Canada this summer to see what I can learn from the tribesmen who knew Sitting Bull up there. Please help me.

Yours faithfully,

W. S. CAMPBELL.