

10

peace, which is now just sent you. My mission to your village is now completed with one exception. I have brought you tobacco to smoke, which you will accept, as an assurance of the truthfulness of my sentiments. I will now thank you for your kind reception of myself and party. And with all my heart will I ever pray for your future happiness." The flag we brought was put up in the middle of the circle. He then said, "The flag that now stands in the center of this circle is the holy emblem of peace. And I am most happy to have it said that it is the only one that has ever been carried so far; but on this occasion I deemed it most necessary, and now will leave it in the hands of your chiefs that you may regard it as a token of my sincerity and good wishes for the welfare of the Sioux Nation. I pray to God you will look upon it as a blessing to your tribe; it is to Him you must look to for all blessings, and from Him all blessings flow. And while you live let it not be said you have had evil thoughts; for evil thoughts and doings bring troubles in your land. I will always do, as I have always done, continue to offer my feeble prayers for your good, but remember peace must reign in your land. I will now listen to your words."

The Black Moon then arose with pipe in hand, and said, "Listen well to what I have to say", - addressing his people, - raised his pipe towards the heavens, pointed it to earth, then said to the Reverend Father, "Touch it to your lips and let your hand rest after doing so", - said, "this man has come for the meet us. He looks fatigued and careworn. I am glad to see him and welcome him with all my heart. His words are good and full of meaning and truth. He speaks well and everything he says is my heart's desire, but there are many thorns in our bosoms, many sores to heal. Our country is desolate and impoverished by a cruel war, which was commenced by the Cheyennes and Eastern Sioux. It was forced upon us, and now, when we travel over our country, we