

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Custer Battlefield National Monument
Crow Agency, Montana

January 28, 1952

Mr. W. S. Campbell
School of Journalism
The University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Campbell:

I have read your letter of January 23 with interest. The saddle bag to which you refer must represent many tales of Indian adventure.

We have a pair of saddle bags which were obtained by Dr. T. B. Marquis in the 1920s. The Cheyenne Indians said they obtained them from the Custer Battlefield but they are much smaller than the ones used by the Army. They could have belonged to one of the civilians killed here.

Your offer of the saddle bag is greatly appreciated, but we do not have funds available for this type of purchase.


We are not convinced that the man who killed Custer can be positively established. However, we are always pleased to have any details which would cast light on that or any other point relating to the story. There are many controversial subjects pertaining to this battle and our object here is to become a bulwark for source materials where students may study and draw their own conclusions.

Mr. George F. Brinlow is a very capable historian. Since he came to Billings, Montana, I have had some interesting associations with him.

This area is open the year around and I am here except for short periods when away on vacation or on government business.

I appreciate your interest in this area and am always pleased to hear from you.

Sincerely yours,



E. S. Luce
Superintendent