

in giving out information which can be depended upon, and about interpreters. My interpreter was Frank Zahn and his assistance as such went little further than in helping me get acquainted ('breaking the ice') for the purposes of portraiture. I recently had a long letter from him. He is a fine fellow and when I write I am going to take the liberty of repeating your good words. It will please him. Since hearing from you I have a distinct impression of his having mentioned you....When I spoke of possible new sources regarding the life of Sitting Bull I had in mind particularly a newspaper story I saw last year about Mr. Joe Porter of Wichita who was said to have been as a youth taken by Sitting Bull and held a year or more as a sort of son. Mr. Porter is ---or has been---a prominent cattleman and still lives, with a Wichita address which will reach him. You may know all about it....I told you, I think that I visited the spot where Sitting Bull's cabin stood and where he was killed by Red Tomahawk and others. You undoubtedly know Francis Red Tomahawk, the son of Red Tomahawk. He is a very fine chap, well educated and conservative....While visiting the Cross collection of Indian portraits in Minneapolis Mr. Adams the Curator gave me an autographed copy of the Sitting Bull portrait. The resemblance, judging from photographs, is not any too striking but I have no doubt as to the authenticity of the regalia in every detail. I think Cross was meticulous in such matters. In the collection there is also a painting of Sitting Bull's old home. These would add interest and their reproduction would be available, I feel sure, in another edition of your book if you have not already used them.

I hope you have much success with your forthcoming book on Sioux battles, and I hope to have a copy. I note that the Hayfield fight is included in the two-volume work of Grace Hebard and E. A. Brininstool, The Bozeman Trail.

I have been planning to be at Chicago part of the year but that depends on whether I get the Comanche story out and whether Comanche's remains are again exhibited there. I have not found a publisher, have not tried very hard. I have had numerous articles published, but no books. Since you have a publishing contact established how would you like to act as collaborator on the Comanche volume? It would take but little of your time. I could either go to see you or send you the mss., photos, letters for fac-simile reproduction, etc. You could check over the story and arrange with Houghton-Mifflin to bring it out in time for the Fair. We could go 50-50 on the proceeds. I am acquainted all over the West and can dispose of hundreds of volumes personally, thus saving us the trade discount. There should be a Holiday edition, too, for the trade. The little book would make a most suitable and appealing Christmas gift for boys....I am enclosing herein a first rough draft of the Foreword to give you and idea of what I mean the book to be. I will make portraits of Captain Keogh and others. I am sending also a story that Mr. Zahn and I wrote last summer. The reproductions of my portrait sketches is wretched; but what can you expect from a newspaper? Will you please return these enclosures. I have no other copy of the story....I fear, now, that I have imposed on your time.

Cordially and sincerely yours,


Barron Brown