

visited upon our Indian population. If the public mind was fully enlightened, and the public conscience aroused, to realize, in all its enormity, the cruel conduct of high military officials toward this hapless people, all engaged in it would meet with merited re<sup>321</sup>/buke, and the chief actors be driven from positions for which they are utterly unworthy.

A word as to Sitting Bull, whom General Sheridan has officially stated to be an insignificant warrior, with a few thieving followers. Some have have reported this chief as having been schooled among the whites, and being conversant with the English and French languages. He says these are all "strange lies." On being interrogated about these stories, and which he denied, the chief said, "What I am, I am;" and, in his attitude and expression of barbaric grandeur, he repeated: "I am a man. I am a Sioux."

On the 6th of November, 1877, when informed by Major McCloud, of the Canadian police, that he must hold himself ready to move his band to the Red Deer river - that the queen had provided a home for him there - he is reported to have said: "I came to you, in the first place, because I was being hard driven by the Americans. They broke their treaties with my people; and when I rose up and fought, not against them, but for our rights as the first people on this part of the earth, they pursued me like a dog, and would have hung me to a tree. They are not just. They drive us into war, and then seek to punish us for fighting. That is not honest. The queen would not do that." After thanking the queen, he said: "Tell her that I will be a good man; that my people will be good. I will take my people to the Red Deer country; and now I do declare, before you, that I will not make any trouble, or annoy you, or give pain to the queen. I will be quiet. I will never fight on your soil unless you ask me to help you. Then I will fight. Place