

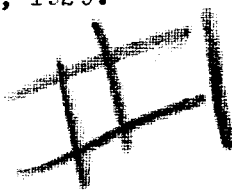
MATTHEW F. STEELE  
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA

Nov. 5, 1929.

*note this letter*

*Steele*

Capt. W. S. Campbell,  
Department of English,  
University of Oklahoma,  
Norman, Oklahoma.



Dear Capt. Campbell:

I have your letter of the 29th October, and also have back photograph of Sitting Bull which I had sent you.

I am enclosing you herewith manuscript that I wrote about the capture and death of Sitting Bull. When you have done with it please return it to me. If you will read this manuscript you will find that most of the questions you have asked me in your letter are answered therein. I have looked over the manuscript and compared it with your letter and I find, however, that there are one or two questions not answered in the manuscript.

I do not know whether Sitting Bull had slept the night before in the cabin where I found the portrait. I do not know which one of his cabins he came out of that morning but I suspect it was the cabin in front of which we found his body and other Indians, which was not the cabin in which I found the portrait. The manuscript mentions the squaws and the old feather bed and Sitting Bull's deaf and dumb son that we found in this cabin. Besides these, there were all sorts of plunder in it. I particularly remember a box or chest which had a lot of small articles in it, and among them I remember seeing photographs of several army officers. I do not recall now who the officers were. I saw nothing of Sitting Bull's shield after his death--in fact, I never heard before of Sitting Bull's shield.

You will note in the manuscript that I mention the white horse Buffalo Bill had given Sitting Bull and the use we made of it that morning. The Indian Courier with whom we sent the message back to Col. Drum at Fort Yates must have ridden the horse at a gallop nearly the whole way. The horse was fairly "stove up" and it was several weeks before he could take a step. I understood at the time I never saw the horse at Fort Yates and do not know where he was sent. But at the time of the World's Fair in Chicago I met Buffalo Bill one morning in the Leland Hotel and we talked, of course, about Sitting Bull's capture and death. I told Buffalo Bill about sending the message back to Fort Yates on the horse he had given Sitting Bull. I also told Col. Cody that I had seen his show the night before. Col. Cody asked, "Did you notice that horse last night"? I replied, "I do not know whether I saw him or not". "That was the horse that brought in Old Glory ahead of the American Troop of Cavalry." Col. Cody told me he had purchased the horse back from Sitting Bull's squaws and used him in his show for the color-bearer to ride.

I do not recall what kind of clothing Sitting Bull had on when I saw him lying dead in front of his cabin. There was nothing distinctive about his clothing. I did not know that Sitting Bull had a son named Crow Foot who was killed in the fight. I didn't see any Indian child, except the deaf and dumb son who hid under the old bed. I had never heard that Sitting Bull had a child killed in the fight.