

to Bull's conversation and the admiring glances he gave him every now and then conveyed an idea that he was that noted man's Boswell and if possible would take the golden words from his tongue as they poured forth so incomprehensibly. "The British," Sitting Bull said, treated his tribe well during the four years they spend in their territory. They always treated Indians better than the United States government and had less trouble in consequence. He thought President Calveland ought to change all the Indian agents the same as he was doing with the postmaster and put better men in. The agent at the Standing Rock agency, Dakotah, where he belonged with his tribe, had treated the Indians pretty well, but he didn't like him because he behaved bad to him and kept him a prisoner for two years. On being asked to describe the Custer fight he smiled, grimly muttered to himself and then his eye brightened and countenance growing animated, he proceeded to depict to the interpreter the following account:

"The Indians, to the number of 5,000 or more, were quietly camping with their women busy at work and their papooses blaying around, when they were startled by the sound of firing of guns and they knew the whitemen were on them. The long haired white chief, as he called Custer, did not charge on them with his men on horseback, but dismounted some distance away and crept in on them and then commenced to shoot down the Indians, their squaws and children. The Indians supposed at first that there were more men attacking them than was actually the case, and in the words of the interpreter, quoting "Sitting Bull's" language "Indian found out either white man or Indian must die, so he fight and kill white men." It was not until nearly all of Custer's troops were killed that the Indians realized how few in number they were. He said the Indians didn't want to fight but had to do so or get killed themselves, and that Indians could fight good if needful. He was going back next month to his tribe at the Standing Rock agency, and would tell his people how many cities the whites lived in