

*Sious*

March 13, 1929.

Mr. Victor J. Evans,  
Victor Building,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Some time ago I sent you a letter making a request for information. I am afraid the letter has miscarried as I have had no reply. This time I am enclosing a stamped envelope for reply. I shall be very grateful if you will help me. This is my request:

My friend, Miss Frances Denmore, author of "Teton Sioux Music" informs me she believes your collection includes a Dakota Calendar which belonged to an Indian named Black Thunder of Eagle River which she describes as a very fine Calendar, probably the best in existence. This, I believe, is the only Calendar known which records the history of the Uncpapa Dakota Indians.

As it happens I am now engaged in historical research about these Indians and their famous leader, Sitting Bull, and I am extremely anxious to inspect this Calendar. Had I known it was in your possession last summer when I was in Washington I should certainly have begged your permission to see it. Since that is impossible now, may I ask your kind cooperation in having a photograph of the Calendar sent to me, together with a transcript of its interpretation? Of course, I should expect to pay for the labor involved in preparing these.

I am the author of a number of books on Western history, an old Rhodes scholar, and I hope may claim to be a serious historian. I shall be glad to give you full credit for the information gained from a study of this Calendar, when my book appears. So much that is false and incomplete has been published regarding the Western Indians that it is of the utmost importance that the truth be told while it is still possible to get it. Your cooperation in this matter will contribute immeasurably to that result.

Perhaps I should add that although known since boyhood by the name of my stepfather, Campbell, I prefer to publish under the name of my own father, Vestal.

Yours faithfully,

W. S. Campbell.