

way that it occurred. I stood for peace, the peace of the community and welfare of the well-disposed Indians

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and thought that the arrest would be made without bloodshed. It was not the shedding of Sitting Bull's blood that I regretted so much as I did the killing of the loyal Indian policemen who were shot down by crazed fanatics at Sitting Bull's order. And he brought on the trouble which ended in his death and also the killing of much better men than he was.

It was, therefore, with some surprise that my attention was called shortly after the bloody event of Dec. 15, 1890, to the fact that some newspapers were inclined to find fault with the manner of the arrest and death of Sitting Bull. It was charged that he was unjustifiably killed -- and the charge was made generally by the people and papers that had been clamoring all summer for the extinction of the old mischief-maker. I had paid no attention to these clamors hitherto and was not disposed to give them heed after the event. But I believe that the official correspondence and comment on the death of Sitting Bull, and the putting down by official proofs of the absurd stories that became current in the weeks immediately succeeding that bloody affair on Grand River, should be set forth here. I do not do this as a matter of self-justification; that was never necessary. The part I had in the affair was merely that of official whose business it was to preserve the peace. I had the prompt and cordial support of my superiors and, if I sought gratification, had the satisfaction of knowing that the general commanding the Department and major general of the army of the United States, in their official reports commended my action in the matter.

But there still lingered in the minds of some people -- impressed at the time by the publication of fakes about the murder of Sitting Bull, the theft of his body for the purpose of putting it on exhibition and other