number of the spectators, I went on to the house of Henry Bullhead, three
miles distant, where I remained over night, and returned to Sitting Bull's
house next morning, where I had a long talk with Sitting Bull and a number
of his followers.

I spoke very plainly to them, pointing out what had been/p.565/done by
the government for the Sioux people, and how this faction, by their present
conduct, were abusing the confidence that had been reposed in them by the
government in its maganimity in granting them full amnesty for all past
offences when, from destitution and imminent starvation, they were compelled
to surrender as prisoners of war in 1880 and 1881, and I dwelt at length
upon what was being done in the way of education of their children and for
their own industrial advancement, and assured them of what this absurd chase
would lead to and the result that would certainly follow.

"I spoke with fealing and earnestness, and my task was well received,
and I am convinced that it had a good effect. Sitting Bull, while being
very obstinate and at first inclined to assume the role of a big chief before
his followers, finally admitted the truths of my reasoning, and said that he
believed me to be a friend to the Indians as a people, but that I did not
like him personally, but that when in doubt in any matter in following my
advice he had always found it well, and that now he had a proposition to
make to me which, if I agreed to and would carry out, it would allay all
further excitement among the Sioux over the ghost dance, or else convince me
of the truth of the belief of the Indians in their new doctrine.

"He then stated his proposition, which was that I should accompany
him on a journey to trace from the beginning the story of the Indian Messiah,
and when he reached the last tribe, or where it originated, if they could
not produce the man who started the story, and we did not find the new
Messiah, as described, upon the earth, together with the dead Indians
returning to reinhabit this country, he would return convinced that they