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DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA



OFFICE OF
INDIAN AGENT

Gleichen, Alta.

September 6, 1930.

Dear Sir:-

It is a long way back to your enquiry of May 5th. into the relationship of Crowfoot, Blackfoot Chief and Sitting Bull, the Sioux. However, better late than never and here is what I have gathered for what it is worth. An aged Blackfoot, "High Eagle" was a close relative of Chief Crowfoot and as a young man travelled considerably in his company. He gave me the following statement:-

Walsh
See
Corrections
Letter to
Willard Shultz

" Crowfoot & Sitting Bull first met at the Cypress Hills or "Big Desert" East of Medicine Hat. This was some months previous to the signing of the Treaty in September 1877. " Sitting Bull came with warriors only and he came to make peace with the Blackfoot. They shook hands and gave each other tobacco and smoked. High Eagle was in the lodge at the time. Nothing further was done along Treaty lines. The warriors danced with the Blackfoot and returned to their camp in the evening. Later the Blackfeet went to Fort Benton on a Buffalo hunt. Crowfoot and Sitting Bull met there again - this was while Sitting Bull was fighting the whites. Sitting Bull told Crowfoot " We will be friends to the end of our lives - my children will be your children and vice versa and from now on we will never fight again and we will be on the same side all the time. Crowfoot replied "Yes". They started ceremonies of dances and feasts. A few days later the Sioux came and stole Blackfoot horses and Crowfoot publicly denounced Sitting Bull as a liar and therefore now an enemy for life. The Sioux was then an enemy to be shot at will. Sitting Bull never actually asked Crowfoot to join forces against the whites but inferred as much previous to the break when the Sioux stole Blackfoot horses. All this happened the summer of the Blackfoot Treaty 1877. Sitting Bull and Crowfoot never met again."

This would have reached you sooner had I been able to get "High Eagle" but bereavement in his family took him to the United States early in the summer. I am sending James Willard Shultz a copy of this letter.

Yours truly,

W. S. Campbell
Indian Agent.

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