

There was an old Indian woman who said she had done something wrong, and she got scared and promised the Great Spirit to get up a Sun Dance.

The Chiefs have a rule that whenever any of the Indians make a vow they will do all that they can to help them keep it. So that woman came down to see me and asked what I thought about it. I told them it was no use talking about it for they could not do it. After while here come a whole lot of Indians and said they wanted to see me; so they chose one of their men who could talk the sign language very well, to come and talk to me, and he tried to talk me into letting them have a Sun Dance. Well, one man would talk and then another, until they had made them all talk. They said this woman had made a vow and she must keep it. I said the Government would not let her keep this vow; that they did not want them to have any more Sun Dances. They said "We are not going to oppose the Government, but we are going to do our best. That is all that is left for us now is to try to get you to let us have the Sun Dance, and if we do not succeed today we will come again and we will be doing our best." Well I told them that when I was a boy I had read papers of Indians and if I had been able to take your speeches down I think they would have been good. Then they said, "Why does the Government oppose these dances so? and why do they forbid us having them? Then I says, "Well the way it is, these things are secrets, and I would have no more right to tell you than you would have to tell one of your secrets, but I will tell you this much, you sometimes have things in your dances that the Government thinks is not nice, or is not moral, but if you will write a letter I will sign it and ask him if you can have this dance. I will tell them why this woman has made this vow."

Well they had their dance, but the things that were objected to were left out of that dance.

The Indians are very particular about marrying relation; they will not marry a cousin even. No one can marry into his own tribe, but has to go to some other for his wife.