

Sitting Bull's address to the Silent Eaters  
protesting the Treaty of 1889.

By Lone-man 7

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During the summer of 1889, a commission, consisting  
some of the most distinguished citizens of the United States,  
including governors, senators, congressmen, army officers  
and church dignitaries, was sent to Standing Rock Agency  
for the purpose of effecting a treaty with the Indians, whereby  
the government, through the above mentioned representatives  
a proposition was offered to the Indians, should they assent  
to relinquish a large portion of Tribal domain.

The sentiment of the Indians was a split between the  
Friendly Indians and the Hostile Band of Sitting Bull followers.

Sitting Bull, heretofore, had always refused to make  
any speeches before any body of government representatives, on  
Tribal matters, feeling that, inasmuch as he was holding  
the highest Tribal office, he rather keep <sup>neutral</sup> quiet and let some  
one else voice ~~the~~ wishes of the Indians.

At the council of Silent Eaters, upon the request of  
the members, he delivered the following speech.

"Friends and Relatives: Our minds are again disturbed  
by the Great Fathers' representations, the Indian Agent, the  
squaw-men, the mixed-bloods, the interpreters and the favorite  
ration-chiefs. What is it they want of us at this time?  
They want us to give up another chunk of our Tribal land.  
This is not the first time nor the last time. They will try  
to gain possession of the last piece of ground we possess.