

MS 21 [316] 1.

Sitting Bull finds guilty party who had cruelly killed a valuable horse.

By One Bull.

~~1865~~

While the Hunkpapa Sioux were camping on the banks of Powder River, in the year of the fallen or shooting stars, some members of the camp had cruelly killed a valuable horse. The animal was the property of Black Bird, one of the prominent characters in the camp. He got possession of this animal through some relative who went on the war path against the Crows and successfully stole several horses. The horse had quite an enviable record among the horse-owners in the camp, on account of its beauty, swiftness and disposition.

The Black Bird family was in deep mourning over the loss. He was a personal friend of Chief Sitting Bull. He appealed to him and the Sacred Stone to locate the guilty party who had committed this atrocious act.

The request was made in the formal way. Black Bird filled up the peace pipe - ready to smoke - took it to Sitting Bull's lodge. He got to the door, when some member of the household, looked outside, saw Black Bird standing there with the pipe in hand. Sitting Bull who was inside the tipi ordered that Black Bird be allowed to enter. As soon as he had been admitted into the lodge, Black Bird, offering the pipe to Sitting Bull saying, "Pitstather, I have come to pray you help me to locate the party, guilty of killing my horse."