I was placed in an embarrassing position,with my friends the Indians, who trusted me and looked to me for help,and my old comrades of the army on the other side.

Matters went from bad to worse,and the disastrous battle of Wounded Knee came off on December 30.5th, resulting in the death of three officers, and thirty soldiers of the old 7th,Cavalry. Custers regiment, and two hundred and forty Indians,men,women,and children.

As the 7th,Cavalry charged in,the cry was "Remember Custer and the Little Big Horn."

The bullets flew thick,through Big Foots Lodge were eighty bullet holes.

I remember Big Footscall to his menthat day,on the fighting line,"Your Ghost Shirts will proptect you,the white mans bullets can not go through" but the charm failed to work.

I remained in the field until late in January,then went to Pierre the Capitol to report to the Governor.

While there the Peace Commission in Washington wired me for information as to who was responsible for the battle, my answer was. "Who fired the first shot that day,it is difficult to decide,but after that shot was fired,nothing short of the Almighty,could have stopped the killing".

Shortly after my arrival at the Agency my old friend,Little Wound the great War Chief,came in from his camp on The Yellow Medicine sixty miles away,to inquire why those soldiers had come,and to have me send them away.

I arranged a consultation between himself and his subchiefs, and Gen, Brooks and the new political agent.

Gen,Brooks told one of his staff to inquire as to whether Little Wound was a Ghost Dancer.and the Chiefs reply was as follows.

" My friend,I am to old for dancing,but now that you have asked me, I will tell you what I know and have heard about the Messiah and the Ghost Dance. for many Winters we have had living with us,the Holy Men, the Missionaries,the Great Father has sent out from Washington,to tell us how much bette the relegion of the white man is,than our religion of The Great Mystery.

They have brought with them the Bible the Holy Book,and out of that book have told us many wonderful stories, the story of those men in the hot furnace whose hair was not singed, and of that man who went in with the wild animals,and who was not bitten,because the God of the white man protected them,and we believe those stories because they come from the holy book.

They tell us the story how many ages ago the white men became very wicked,their brains whirled,they lost their ears,and got off on the wrong road, and denied the Great Spirit,and the Great Spirit took pity on them,and sent down his only son to try and show them the right road,and he lived with them for over thirty Winters,and worked hard to help the white man,but they denied him,and nailed him up on agreat wooden cross,and tortured him and killed him, and the Great Spirit was made sad and took him back to his home.

p My friend I do not understand the religion of the white man,for if the Great Mystery was to send his son to help us we would feel honored,we would build a great house for him,and try and keep him with us,we do not ask our Great Spirit to send his son on earth to be tortured for us,for we torture ourselves in the great Sun Dance for our God.

When the son of your Great Spirit was on earth that time he was called the Messiah,and when you killed him on the cross that day, it was told that he would be sent back some time again to try and save the people.

Some sleeps ago, there came to us a young Indian,his name was Porcupine a Cheyenne from the Yellowstone Country, he came with this tale,he had been many days journey in the Northwest, and there he had met the Messiah,who was a tall white man,with golden hair and whiskers,and blue eyes, and a well spoken man, and he said Porcupine I am the Messiah,my father the Great Spirit remembers the promise of many ages ago,and has sent me back a second time,to save and save the people,but the last time I was here the people denied me tortured,and killed me.

In the Spring time when the green grass comes,I intend to visit my frinds in the different tribes,and help them,but to be sure that I am with friends I have arranged certain signs and a dance,and if I am so received,I will stay with them and help them,if not so received I will pass thembye,so I give you this dance and the signs.