



LAWRENCE K. FOX, SECRETARY

SOUTH DAKOTA
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
TRUSTEE OF THE STATE

PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA

Dec. 12, 1939.

ADMINISTERS
STATE LIBRARY, CENSUS,
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE,
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Dear Itinerant Iconoclast:

I thought this article on Sitting Bull's birthplace might amuse you. The poor old author comes to the support of the Willow Creek site after a lifetime of proving that the birth occurred elsewhere. The old lady who said that one should not attempt to write after eighty wasn't far wrong.

D.R. ignores all of the standard authorities, forgets that he is on record in support of two other sites, confuses W. Fletcher Johnson with J. Fletcher Williams, drags out a purported interview in 1886 with S.B. which has never been disclosed heretofore, has an old lady recall that her aunt told her fifty or so years ago that S.B. said he was born on Willow Creek. Among our Collins stuff is a statement of One Bull to Miss Collins to the effect that S.B. was born near Fraid-of-Bear's place, on Grand River.

He missed your statement in the first paragraph of your first chapter or chose to overlook it.

This gives you an idea of what I've had to contend with for several years. I don't like to knock his ears down but he persists in gumming the works by putting out false information. I've kept still thinking that Nature might do its stuff eventually but I'm beginning to think he's a re-incarnation of the Wandering Jew.

Otherwise things have been going fairly well. There is much work, some new finds, and so I manage to exist.

I don't have a copy of your Happy Hunting Grounds, 1928, and if you know of a source of supply, please inform me.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence K. Fox