

A Warrior Who Fought Custer,  
Interpreted by Thomas B. Marquis  
Minneapolis, Minn. The Midwest Company 1931.

Pages 382-383. in speaking of the Little Big Horn Battle-  
White people want to know "Where was Sitting Bull  
during the fight?"

For a long time I did not understand why this  
question was pressed so strongly. Then I learned that  
white people have been saying: "Sitting bull was  
a coward. He was not with the warriors in the fighting."

I do not know where he was. I had not thought about  
trying to find out. I suppose he was helping the women  
and children and old people, where he belonged. He had  
a son in the fight. Any man having a son serving as a  
warrior was expected to stay out of the battle and give the  
son his chance to get warrior honors. Lame White Man,  
the Southern Cheyenne tribal chief who was killed, went  
into the fight because of his having no son there. I suppose  
it was the same with Chief Crazy Horse, of the ~~Sgixii~~  
Ogallalas, and Chief Hump Nose of the Arrows-All-Gone.  
I do not know of any other tribal chiefs or old men  
having mixed in the battle. My father stayed in the  
camp, but his staying there was not on account of  
personal fear.

A am not ashamed to tell that I was follower of Sitting  
bull. I have no ears for hearing anybody say he was not  
a brave man. He had a big brain and a good one, a strong  
heart and a generous one. In the old times I never heard  
of any indian having spoken otherwise of him. If any of them  
changed their talk in later days, the change must have  
been brought about by lies of the agents and soldiers chiefs  
who schemed to make themselves appear as good men by  
making him appear as a bad man.

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This opinion is sanely expressed and is about the  
conclusion in the main that we long ago arrived at.

He did not see Sitting Bull in the battle nor does  
he know that he was among the women and children. This  
conclusion is not inconsistent with the fact that he  
did take part in the battle.

Lewis F. Crawford.