

LITTLE SOLDIER

Age 70.

28 when SB died; ma hunkpapa; pa Yanktone. LS SB warrior. LS ded named Holy Faced Bear and suggested going to Canada after Custer Battle. HFB not a chief; didn't think of going elsewhere as Canada closest. HFB led; saw no redcoats; LS with them; no trouble going; went north as thus they would have to cross line (2) near Poplar Creek, a little squirmish with Charging Thunder and Baldwin on way to Canada. After reaching Canada LS young but heard of treaty with Miles; stayed in Canada little over one year had plenty of buffaloes and returned as individual families. Doesn't know how the ones who stayed in Canada managed food. (3) SB didn't want them to return; Ooglallala's sneaked out one at a time; in summer time in Canada Camped in group but in winter each for himself. Rivers in Canada: 1. Chanra, (a) Wood M't. (4) Camped near Wooded M't; traded with trappers for snow shoes but couldn't use them; went long long way; bought liquor, horses and robes for small keg of liquor. Our band had no ~~fixxx~~ fights but mingled with Cheyennes, Piutes, Nez P.; stayed with one tribe then another; sociable affairs. (5) from Custer M. all winter in Canada; next fall quite a few (200) Nez. P. came and told of trouble with W. police on Yellowstone, some getting captured rest went to Canada. Had many ~~horses~~ horses. Very young and not in battles with SB. LBH took place one day and SB returned next day from hunting. SB as brave a man as we ever had. (6) SB wounded by Crows in the foot; (thought SB wounded twice) SB also kind hearted and very brave. Sometime SB made big feast and fed ~~people~~ whole nation; hired fellows to hunt for him; these fellows belonged to Midnight Strong Hearts; SB being head of MSH could get their services. MSH different from SH; bravely and age determined membership. (7) MSH between ages of 15 and 28 below 20 SB was chief and he any age-say 40. Old men were Big Strong Hearts, too old to work well and left raiding to young fellows, MSH. SB had diff regalia; buffalo hat, four feathers in back, weasel skin. SB had best; So carried lance with few feathers scattered; must have lance to stab anything. (8) 1st SH originated at suggestion of woman; she had communicated with spirits for idea; long before SB; LS watched ghost dancers and saw SB taking part; Eagle feather on stick while dancing he (SB) waved in front of dancers to get them in stupor and dream; All who took part in dance; had powder in hand when they came to painted face with this and saw vision. (9) SB Costume in Ghost Dancers. SB had sacred shirt with red cross between shoulder blades, red cross in front; here and there a black star; once or twice blue-black new moon painted; no animals painted on shirt; down of eagles here and there; shirt of white cloth painted red. Had bag of medicine and little feather tied on head; painted red and made of leather. face painted red with cross painted on forehead; rainbow (10) from outer eyebrow to edge of outer eyebrow. (cross meant crucifix and messiah) Moon on one cheek; star on other; 5 pointed star; had stockings and leggings of white painted red and red pantaloons; fur around ankle; all his costume sacred. others ditto: SB never wore hat. (11) Mighty fine men killed when SB killed. Catch-the-Bear, Brave Man, Crawler, killed. L. Assin. brave fine and small in stature. Big thing would have died away had SB lived. Bull Head and McL. caused Big Thing. Had treaty with 3 Stars SB warriors wouldn't and BH warriors would sign. BH belonged to police and disliked SB because of this treaty. (12) ~~MM~~ BH Blackfoot under John Grass; dad Yanktone. JG not friend of SB. JG thought SB would listen to bro.-in-law, Gray Eagle, and stop ghost dance; but he wouldn't.