

What was the cause of the Indian scare in Dakota at the time of the Ghost Dance? The census shows that in North and South Dakota in 1890 there were 17 white persons to every Indian, and that only a small part of the Indians were mixed up in the dance. McLaughlin states that there were only 160 dancers in Sitting Bull's camp when he was dancing. How do you account for the alarm of white settlers which led them to skip out and leave their farms?

Was it newspaper stories? Or did they desire to start an Indian war so as to bring money to the State in hard times? Or were they really as easily scared as all that? What is your candid opinion of the courage of the pioneer people in those days. I shall not quote you. I merely ask your opinion.

I was in an Indian scare down here as a small boy. Since then I have not had much respect for the stories of the brave frontiersmen. I saw too many of them run and hide from nothing.