

and

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Fort Yates, North Dakota

October 4, 1930

Professor W.S. Campbell:

Sitting Bulls Grove, Re, Articles in Mobridge, McLaughlin ^{papers} & Ft. Yates /

There was always a marker at head of grave. As-early--And every spring when early flowers came, fresh flowers were frequently placed on the grave, in the night. Nobody knew who did this. Ofcourse it was Indians. This peeved Maj. McLaughlin.

By 1905, the simple marker was replaced ^{by a} marker such as the Pioneer-Arrow describes, lettered in black letters "Sitting Bull, Died Dec. 15, 1890". Such markers, of pinewood, two inches thick, the size and shape of the ordinary simple markers in graveyards, were splintered away for souvenirs, many times, and were replaced. The flowers continued to be placed there in springtime. For the last 17 years, his grave has been decorated, without secrecy, or much secrecy, and now it is regularly decorated. Shortly before the Ft. Yates Commercial Club erected the cairn of stones on the foot of the grave, and while some simple improvements of the ground were being made, with movement of the surface soil, a certain man who wanted to know positively as to rumors that his skeleton, or at least his skull, had been removed from the grave, with a trusty man aiding him on watch, opened the grave, by night, and found the full skeleton there, and it is doubtless there now. The dirt, and turfs on top, were well placed. And so, with the ground broken, as above stated, no one seemed to discover that the grave had been opened. Dirt was tamped in very hard and top turfs replaced also tamped very hard. No matter who this man was. I know this to be a fact. Am again State's Attorney here.

A. McG. Beede *A. McG. Beede*

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*McL's was not satisfied to be
rancor pursued JB even
beyond his death - He resisted
all attempts to mark the grave -*