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J. H. B.

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Col. Hugh T. Reed  
633 Main Street  
Richmond, Indiana

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October 9, 1929.

Captain Stanley Vestal,  
Dept. of English,  
University of Oklahoma,  
Norman, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

As per your letter of the 14th instant I give you my version of information you are seeking regarding Sitting Bull:

"When I was a Second Lieutenant in the first U. S. Infantry I was stationed at many of the army posts then along the Missouri river, the eastern boundary of the Sioux Indian Reservation, above Yankton, S.D. from August 1874 to September 1880. My first post was Fort Sully, S. D. and it was there that I first heard about Sitting Bull, a medicine man of the powerful Sioux. He was spoken of as Four Horns or a Calumet Man.

"The next year gold was discovered in the Black Hills and against the wishes of the large majority of the Sioux, a treaty between them and the United States was signed by a commission of a dozen men headed by a Mr. Edmunds, a former governor of the Territory of Dakota, and a few minor chiefs of the Sioux. I attended the meeting held at Cheyenne River Indian Agency, S. D., in a large warehouse building. For years two companies of the 17th U. S. Infantry were all the troops needed at this post, but after the government proposed to take the Black Hills country from the Sioux, Gen. Buel and the 11th U. S. Infantry was sent to this post.

"Building materials for new quarters and warehouses were shipped there for the troops to put up new buildings.