

You will understand of course that all uses of vegetal materials for any purpose are of special interest to me, and I would like to know about this, for I never heard of it from any Indians, and I have never seen a specimen of such use.

On page 28 you tell of the zigzag lines on an arrowshaft, and say that they are to make it fly straight. Just as a matter of physics I do not see how the zigzag lines could have that effect, but the explanation given me by Indian arrow makers who were old men, and had made arrows for practical use in their young manhood, was that the zigzag lines helped to keep the shafts from warping, - it kept them straight.

I hope I shall have further and helpful acquaintance with you, at least by correspondence if not by personal meeting. I have not had the privilege to be acquainted with any of the faculty of your university yet.

I am sorry that I am unable to give you any information about Sittingbull. You must know very much more about him from your research on the subject than I can ever know until I get to read the book.

Your sincerely,

*Melvin R. Gilmore*

Curator of Ethnology  
Museum of Anthropology  
University of Michigan