

The result of the mission of Father De Smet into the hostile camp is history. Upon his arrival at the camp, where he found between 4,000 and 5,000 Indians, after the necessary ceremonies of greeting had taken place, the priest, worn and exhausted by the fatigues of the march, lay down in their midst and went to sleep. He slept as a tired child sleeps after a day at play. No fear of his hosts disturbed him. When he awoke he found Sitting Bull, with Four Horns, No Neck and Black Moon waiting beside him.

A great council was arranged and the hostiles listened with respect to the words of Father De Smet. While smarting from a thousand injustices at the hands of the whites, they were willing, if the Black Robe thought it best, to send ~~some~~ representatives to the council at Fort Rice. Thus it was arranged. Accompanied by some 300 or 400 Indians, Father De Smet began the return march to Fort Rice.

Messengers were sent on ahead with the good news. In the evening of the last day of June the procession arrived at the gates of the fort, in its midst a wagon driven by a Sioux in which rode the black robed priest, his garments in strange contrast to the vivid feathers and blankets of his present companions as a while back it had been among the gold braided uniforms of the white generals.

Blue Thunder, who drove Father De Smet, on this undertaking, still lives at Standing Rock agency in South Dakota. His association with their beloved Black Robe has caused him to be held in high esteem by all the Indians at the reservation.