

*Higheagle re. Sitting Bull*

March 19, 1930.

Mr. Robert P. Higheagle,  
Red Rock, Oklahoma.

Dear Mr. Higheagle:

Thanks very much for your translations of the One Bull papers. The questions you raise I shall look into next summer when I go north. I hope to get up into Dakota in June and July at latest and check up on many things we have discussed. I hope that you will keep in touch with me so that I will know where to find you at any time after June 1, for I may have need of your services then. I hope you will do all you can to stop any quarrel which may arise among the Indians with regard to my researches. All I desire is the truth and it will never do to allow people to quarrel about such things. No one knows everything and some people can give information on some matters which others may not know so well. It is the custom of historians to consult everyone who can give information and this is what I am trying to do. I believe that every Indian will find it to the advantage of his race to tell me the truth so that we can set the Indian right before the country. For this reason I have encouraged everyone to talk and I am even glad to get hearsay, because often hearsay leads one to the truth just as smoke leads one to fire.

The information Mr. Bullhead sent was very interesting, though not so complete as I wished and I have asked him to keep up the good work and clear up some points about Sitting Bull's war record. I hope you will keep after White Bull and de Roquebraine and Andrew Fox and get from them whatever matters we talked about down here. I hope you will not miss any opportunities to talk to old timers wherever you find them and note down information you receive.

I would send you some money now, but have none and as you probably noted the information I received from Mr. Bullhead at the usual rate of pay does not amount to more than I have already paid you and him for this service.

If you get a chance to talk to Gray Eagle please pump him dry about Sitting Bull's early war record, about how Sitting Bull wooed and married his sister, and about Sitting Bull's life on the reservation. It would be interesting to know what Gray Eagle has to say about horses stolen in Canada, but I hope you will not stir up any trouble among the Indians in making these inquiries. I do not wish to take sides in any squabbles and I hope that all the old timers will regard me as a sincere friend to them, for that is what I am. If anyone complains to you tell him that if he has any firsthand information to give I shall be glad to have it. All I want is the truth.

Mr. Botkin saw the story of the migration of the birds among my papers and thought he would like to use it in "Folk Say". If you have no objection I may let him have it, and in that case though I paid you for it I am willing that he should pay you just the same as if it had come direct from you, in case the book sells.

Sincerely your friend,

W. S. CAMPBELL.