

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN INDIANS, INC.

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But two barriers are in the way; lack of time; and lack of funds! My husband and I are giving our services in the work of the National Council of American Indians, without compensation, because Indians are too poor to finance their young organization.

The Indian matters calling for our attention crowd heavily upon our time; however, the Senate Investigating Committee will conclude its first part of work in the field by August 1st; and therefore - we may be able to spend a month - in the field - to secure this very important testimony concerning Sitting Bull. My husband and I could ~~##~~ do this particular work as no other could possibly do it, as we ourselves are related by blood and by marriage to Sitting Bull's folks. We have our own car, and would drive out to them from Washington.

Judging from other trips we have made, it would require \$500 to do it. The question is how to get the funds. I intend mentioning this to Major Ahern, to get his opinion as to the worthwhile expenditure of money, and of our time and services. Of course, neither Capt. Bonnin nor I ask any remuneration, - as we want to contribute that to your book. I know the Indians who hold a monument, they had purchased some years ago to place at Sitting Bull's grave, but have never to this day been able to put it up; being "afraid" of the Superintendent in charge. We can get that story too.

I have talked with Senator Frazier about the way this Great Man, Sitting Bull, lies buried outside of any Church cemetery, - without proper markers, and in the weeds. Senator Frazier recently promised me he would introduce a bill in Congress for a proper monument, and fence around Sitting Bull's grave, if the Indians wish him to do so. Of course, we do! That will come up this December. In the meanwhile, your book may be written, including these "signs" of the changing times!

Most sincerely yours,

Gertrude Bonnin