

Bear fired the first shot, wounding Bull Head in the leg. The latter instantly wheeled and sent a bullet through Sitting Bull's head at the moment he was shouting his commands to his followers. Simultaneously Red Tomahawk, of the police, shot the old chief in the stomach.

The firing now became general. The police pressed the hostiles so hard that they retreated to the stables, a hundred yards distant. The police followed and drove them out, and obtaining possession of a house, they carried their dead and wounded into it. There were a hundred Sioux fighting furiously, and the position of the police was fast becoming critical.

At the first outbreak, a policeman dashed off, his horse on a dead run, and signaled to the waiting cavalry, who, having heard the firing, hurried forward to the help of the police. They opened with their Hotchkiss and Gatling gun on the hostiles, who fled in such haste that their families were left behind. Then, having thoroughly searched the woods and tepees, the cavalry and police fell back to Oak Creek, eighteen miles north of Grand River, where they camped for the night.

The foregoing account of the death of Sitting Bull is the one generally accepted. There is no denying, however, the prevalence of the belief that, when his arrest was arranged, it was understood that an excuse was to be found for putting him out of the way.

The following dispatch, dated St. Paul, December 6, 1891, has been widely published:

"Sitting Bull was murdered. Conrad Disstler, who made the sixty-mile march across the sand plains of the Sioux Reservation from Fort Yates to Grand River with Troop F, Eighth Cavalry, on December 6 last,