

Indian camps he had great difficulty in getting away. He said the Indians made their soldiers watch the camps and keep the people together. He talked with Sitting Bull and was permitted to move his lodge in the night, and then came very far around to keep out of the way of both Indians and soldiers. Sitting Bull sent word to the agent by him "that he did not intend to molest any one south of the Black Hills, but would fight the whites in that country as long as the question was unsettled, and if not settled, as long as he lived." As soon as the Black Hills question was settled, he wanted the agent to send him word and tell him what to do. He said "when the rascality about the Black Hills was settled, then he would stop his rascality." He did not want to fight the whites, but "only to steal from them as they had done from the Indians. The white men steal and the Indians won't come to a settlement." He said "the government had promised much to the agency Indians that has never been fulfilled, and it wants to move the agencies again. If moved, who will occupy the land? It belongs to the Indians. If good white people will not listen to the Great Father, no more you young men will listen to your chief." The message of Sitting Bull closed with this remark: "If troops come out to him, he must fight them, but if they don't come out he intends to visit the agency and will counsel his people to peace." In the latter part of October, Gen. Miles had an interview with Sitting Bull, at the request of the latter, under a flag of truce. The chief stated (said Gen. Miles) that "he desired to hunt buffalo, to trade (particularly for ammunition), and agreed that the Indians would not fire upon the soldiers if they were not disturbed. He desired to know why the soldiers did not go into winter quarters, and, in other words, he