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MIS # 1

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December 4, 1929

Mr. W. S. Campbell,  
Department of English,  
University of Oklahoma,  
Norman, Oklahoma.

Dear Mr. Campbell:

No doubt you have thought I had passed entirely from these earthly scenes. However, such is not the case, and after my long interval of unbroken silence, I have the beginning of a report to make to you. To tell you the truth, I did not dare report until I had found something of a real constructive interest. I believe I can now so report.

To date, I have consulted the following manuscript collections, in whole or in part:  
Gere, William B and Thomas Parke , 1855 - 1873.  
Aiton, John Felix, 1841 - 1888.  
Larpenteur, Auguste Louis, 1792-1907.  
Adams, Moses N., 1853 - 1879.  
De Smet, Report on Powder River Conference with Black Moon, Sitting Bull, and others, 1868.

In my delving into these papers, I have found some things which are interesting. The Larpenteur Papers contain the account of a meeting of Mr. Larpenteur with Sitting Bull in St. Paul. I have made the transcript of this account as you suggested, and am enclosing it with this letter. The problem of assigning a date for this meeting perplexed me somewhat, and occasioned my becoming better acquainted with the Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and the Minneapolis and St. Paul newspapers. As finally settled upon, my belief is that this visit of Sitting Bull to St. Paul occurred in October, 1888. I am aware that Sitting Bull was east at one other time in his career, but, because of other circumstances, I have eliminated that time. I have chosen this date as the correct date for the meeting for the following reasons:

It was the only time, to my knowledge, that Sitting Bull came east with Major McLaughlin.

It was the only occasion that Sitting Bull made a trip east between 1881 and his death.

The expedition in 1889 did not include Sitting Bull as one of its members; as far as I have been able to learn.

Plain field

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