

My counsel with the Indians was very satisfactory and I learned many things about Sitting Bull's individuality. He had some very indefinable power which could not be resisted by his people or even others who came in contact with him. When I become a more thorough student of psphyology I shall understand him better, but even with what knowledge I did have I comprehended more easily the character of the Indian Chief who was always so tender, gracious and invariably sweet.

About this time the people were much concerned about the dry year; there had been no rain for months. The Indians went to Ft. Yates for their rations and one day at this period, they were gathered together, Sitting Bull announced that it would rain. He took a buffalo skin, waved it around in the air, made some signs, placed it upon the ground and ----- IT RAINED. Not immediately of course, but in a day or two. I had some practice myself in discovering signs of rain but on this occasion I was not prepared from the looks of the weather to agree with the prophet Sitting Bull. He saw, tho, by some means unknown to the rest of us that it was liable to rain. This is only one incident which shows why the people had such faith in him. His knowledge of the elements was very accurate and he was always shrewd enough to make advantageous use of these things to better his own power and influence. He understood the grass signs and could tell by observing it closely what sort of a winter we would have, whether it would be mild or severe. I remember particularly that during the winter of the Ghost dance he prophesied that the winter would be mild and said, "Yes, my people, you can dance all the winter this year, the sun will shine warmly and the weather will be fair." He told by the growing of the grass to whether the snow would be deep or not.

At the time of the Ghost Dance Sitting Bull had a three days dance and notified all the people of the ceremony to occur. The dance became almost like the Sun dance and was continued from evening until morning and from dawn till night. The people gathered from everywhere for the dance. Thousands came to participate. Then it began to be talked about in the papers and this created trouble at Standing Rock. When the Indians went for their rations each time to Ft. Yates the soldiers were all drawn up with great display and a canon was hauled out and target practice was carried on. All this was intended to intimidate the Indians. All these details tended to excite Sitting Bull and his people. As the excitement grew, the dance became wilder and more excited. People gathered by the thousands and the dance became more and more like the sun dance which was forbidden by the government. To make the illusions