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HISTORY OF SITTING BULL

by

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Sitting Bull, or "Tatankaiyotaka," was killed on the morning of December 14, 1890, by Bull Head, Lieutenant, and Shave Head, Sergeant, of the Indian Police of Standing Rock Agency, N. D. This is very generally known, and there is universal satisfaction over the fact. But especially is his death gratifying to those parties in charge of Indian affairs. This satisfaction does not arise from the fear of any great danger impending from him, but because he was an arrogant, obstinate, conceited.

He belonged to the Uncapapa tribe of Sioux, and was a petty chief, his band being composed of twenty-eight families, and like himself, they were the most non-progressive of all the Sioux Nation. Never at any time was Bull a war chief, and so far as can be learned, he was never actively engaged in battle. He professed to be a prophet or medicine man, and when any fighting was to be done, Bull would proceed to make "strong medicines" by pounding on the head of a drum, located at a safe distance in the rear of the battles.

But little is known of him prior to 1873. At that time he broke away from the Standing Rock Agency, on account of the stealage, as the Indians alleged and believed, of the supplies sent them by the Government, by Indian agents, traders and army officers, and with his people located on the Little Big Horn River, Montana. As the supplies sent out by the Government continually decreased, owing to the stealage, the Indians gradually withdrew from their agency and joined Bull. Here they depended upon game for sustenance.

In 1875, Gall, head chief of the Uncapapas, left the agency with

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