

the case, it was because he had been led to believe that - among others - he was a sufferer due to their alleged depredations. Personally, I cannot recall having heard him say / <sup>205</sup> a word against them. Moreover, it is a matter of record that later on, while serving as a member of the Civil Service Commission in Washington, he went out of his way to improve the conditions holding on the upper Missouri River reservations and to see that the Indians were accorded a square deal.

When we really want to get at the other fellow's point of view, the best way to do it is to make an honest attempt to step into his shoes. To do so in the case of this particular hunting party - of the tribe dominating the Bad Lands country but a few years before - is to get something of a true insight to their feelings upon revisiting it now for the first time since they had been segregated upon their reservation.

In the recent past it had been all theirs, both by right of treaty and inheritance. Their hunting grounds. A gift from the "Great Spirit," which they were neither underestimating nor misusing. In large numbers the buffalo and prong-horn had roamed over the billowy green hills of the "Slope Country." Just over the main divide, to the westward, the Bad Lands had teemed with game of other varieties. Fur-bearing animals and birds were there in quantity. Everywhere, as I have said, were glorious sylvan valleys permeated with the wild romantic atmosphere in which they had grown up. It was a land of plenty, of music in the air, of the God-given freedom of truth, of unshackled nature, of all-out-doors, so that peace and happiness had reigned in the wigwam.

Now, alas, they found it all different. Of the buffalo, all that remained was a ghastly reminder in/the form of an occasional bleaching skeleton still ungathered <sup>206</sup> by the bone teams. Replacing them were the vast cattle herds of the invading White Man which the Indians might touch only at their peril. Everywhere the birds and smaller animals were fewer and wilder than they had