

Do

You

Know

That

Sitting Bull, noted Medicine Man of the Sioux Nation was killed on Grand River in South Dakota, December 15th, 1890. He is buried in Fort Yates, North Dakota. The Military, at that time, had full charge of the burial. Hundreds of tourists visit his grave, and the number increases each succeeding year.

The so-called Messiah Craze was responsible for his death. Sitting Bull's instigation of the Ghost Dance was not to precipitate hostilities against the Whites. His followers realized that they were under Federal jurisdiction. They felt the presence of the Whiteman's power.

Sitting Bull had his own ideas of theology. The ceremony in connection with the Ghost Dance was to ascertain the Hereafter for the Redman. The participants would dance until exhausted and while in a semi-conscious state they would communicate with departed relatives. After regaining consciousness, these Sioux Spiritualists would reveal their experiences to the Medicine Man.

The late James McLaughlin, formerly Inspector of the Department of the Interior, was Indian Agent at that time. The present city of McLaughlin, South Dakota, was named in honor of him. Sitting Bull and his force of followers being under Federal jurisdiction, McLaughlin requested him to discontinue the Ghost Dance. Disregarding the request, the War Department issued an order for his arrest.