

yarns equally absurd -- erroneous ideas that should be dissipated.

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and I am minded to close this section of my career by giving some of the official correspondence and reports concerning the event. This is not by the way of apology and self-justification, but merely a rounding out of the story I have endeavored to record.

Dec. 16, 1890, Col. Drum reported the matter in detail to the military authorities -- at whose instance the arrest was essayed -- on the same day I made a detailed report to the Indian Office. In response to my report I received the following from Commissioner of Indian Affairs T. J. Morgan:

"Washington, Dec. 30, 1890.

"James McLaughlin

U. S. Indian Agent,

Standing Rock, N. D.

Sir:-

"Your communication of the 16th inst., is received wherein you report in detail the arrest and subsequent death of Sitting Bull, speak of the bravery and good judgment of your Indian police, recommend that the noble services of the survivors receive substantial recognition, that the families of those who were killed will be amply provided for, and that this department and the war department join in an effort to obtain congressional action to that end if necessary.

In reply you are informed that this office will do all in its power to have congress recognize and reward the praiseworthy and valuable services rendered by these men and to provide for the needs of their families of those who were killed and, in the meantime you will see to it that they do not suffer for lack of any supplies or requisitions for their sustenance and comfort, and any specific recommendation you may make in regard to them, pending legislation in their favor, will be carefully considered and promptly approved by me, if practicable and proper.