

There never was any disagreement between myself and the military men in the matter. I am proud of the fact that I had then, as I have now, many scores of excellent and cordial friends in the army and that I added to that number of them during th t winter. I had been in thorough sympathy and touch and Col. Drum all through the affair and

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there was not the slightest friction between the agency people and the soldiers at Fort Yates. This was a condition established during my residence as agent at Standing Rock. The time had been when no civil word was passed between the civilians of the agency and the military people of Fort Yates, during which time had a man on either side of the fence, dividing the agency grounds from the Fort Yates garrison limits, given any evidence of friendship for one on the other side it was regarded sufficient to brand the friendly one as disloyal to his superior.

But all this had been changed and there was perfect accord on each side. Capt. E. G. Fechet, who commanded the eighth cavalry detachment supporting the Indian police in the arrest of Sitting Bull, did full justice to the Indian police in his report and this report was indorsed by Col. Drum, and this brings me to another bit of official history in the form of a letter from Hon. John W. Noble, then secretary of the Interior, with some inclosures. Here is the letter:

"James McLaughlin,

U. S. Indian Agent,

Standing Rock, N. D.

Department of the Interior,

Washington, Jan. 16, 1891

Sir:-

"I enclose herewith a copy of the report of Capt. E. G. Fechet, commanding Eight Cavalry, Fort Yates, N. D., together with the report of Lieut. W. F. Drum, commanding the post, to the Adjutant general, Department of Dakota, in relation to the arrest and death of Sitting Bull in the 15th ult.