

## SITTING BULL ONCE MADE A SACRIFICE AND ATONEMENT FOR HIS PEOPLE

His camp was then on the Little Missouri, not far from the present town of Ekalaka, Montana. When the sage was just at the right height, Sitting Bull stripped to the breech-clout, put on a buffalo robe -- hair side out -- and unbraiding his hair, took a filed pipe and went with his assistant. They walked about two miles from camp to a hilltop. There Interrupting Bear left him. It was just before sunrise.

All that day Sitting Bull stood on the hilltop, barefoot, fasting and praying, holding the stem of the pipe towards the sky, wailing for Wakan Tanka to take pity on his people and give them meat. The pipe had a streamer of red flannel trailing from the mouth-piece -- a symbol of the blood of sacrifice.

That night he lay on a bed of sage, but all the next day he kept on praying and wailing for mercy. After two days he was reassured, his penance was ended, and Interrupting Bear came and led him back to camp. Sitting Bull's prayers were strong; they were soon answered, and the people had plenty of meat. And before long Gall, disgusted with the graft and starvation at the agency, came back to share in the abundance created by Sitting Bull's piety.

Soon after, White Dog, the Hohe chief, came to Sitting Bull's camp at the mouth of the Powder River, to make peace. Ever since Sitting Bull captured his Hohe 'brother', he had always been ready for a truce with the Hohe. He gladly smoked with White Dog, and made him many presents. It was a long time since all the Hohe had been on smoking terms with the Sioux. Because of the unusual nature of this event, this year of '75 is known in the Hunk-papa Calendar as the Winter-when-White-Dog-Visited-the-Sioux. This treaty lasted until '79, when Silas Adam and other Hohe scouts served with General 'Bear-Coat' Miles against Sitting Bull

During the Fall hunt, 1875 Sitting Bull had an opportunity to show his