

that the most powerful influence was that exerted by Sitting Bull. It was determined that he should be brought to the agency and every influence that could be brought to bear was put forth to this end. The report of Indian Agent McLaughlin reveals the nature of such efforts, and throws a flood of light on the character of him who was, perhaps, the greatest Indian since the days of Tecumseh.

The document is addressed to Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Morgan, and reads in full as follows:

"Having just returned from Grant River district, and, referring to my former communication regarding the ghost dance craze among the Indians, I have the honor to report that on Saturday evening last I learned that such a dance was in progress in Sitting Bull's camp, and that a large number of Indians of the Grand River settlements were participators. Sitting Bull's camp is on the Grand River, forty miles southwest from the agency, in a section of country outside of the line of travel, only visited by those connected with the Indian service, and was, therefore, a secluded place for these scenes.

"I concluded to take them by surprise, and on Saturday morning left for that settlement, accompanied by Louis Primeau, arriving there about 3 P. M., and, having left the road usually traveled by me in visiting the settlement, we got upon them unexpectedly and found a ghost dance at its height.

"There were about forty-five men, twenty-five women, twenty-five boys, and ten girls participating (a majority of the boys/^{p.564.}and girls, until a few weeks ago, pupils of the day schools of the Grant River settlement), and approximating 200 with lookers-on, most of whom had their families with them and encamped in the neighborhood. I did not attempt to stop the dance then going on, as, in their crazed condition, under the excitement, it would have been useless to attempt it, but after remaining some time talking with a