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July 21, 1929.

The Secretary,  
Historical Manuscripts Commission,  
Public Record Office,  
Chancery Lane, W.C. 2,  
London, England.

Dear Sir:

I have just received the MEMORANDUM ON THE WORK OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS, and note that you will be good enough to answer questions. May I introduce myself and ask a few?

I happen to be an old Rhodes Scholar (Merton & Oklahoma, 1908-11) engaged in historical research with regard to the life of Sitting Bull, the celebrated Sioux (Dakota) Indian leader. As you know, he fled to the Dominion of Canada following the Custer fight, (1877) and remained there near Fort Walsh, Saskatchewan, until he surrendered in 1881. It is my intention to visit the Dominion of Canada and search the records there in a study of the foreign relations as between Canada and the United States in regard to Sitting Bull.

I note that your publications began as early as 1870, and it is my hope that you have something listed which would aid my study.

If not, can you refer me to the proper authority in England or Canada, or both, who might be able to help me? I am trying not to overlook any possible source in this rather untouched field of enquiry. Official documents are of especial value here, inasmuch as most of the unofficial publications about Indian affairs are unreliable, biased, or frankly the work of sensational journalists.

Please help me, if you can. I should be greatly pleased if my name were put upon your mailing list.

Perhaps I should explain that, although commonly known since childhood by the name of my step-father Campbell, I publish under the name of my own father, Stanley Vestal.

Faithfully yours,

(Prof.) W. S. Campbell