

- 94 to throw off the Indian * who was attempting to pull the bear coat from his back and at the same time hold him between himself and the Indian who was trying to shoot him, Grouard was at first mistaken by Sitting Bull for a huge bear, standing upright, fighting its would-be captors.

The Sioux chief was a great joker, and Grouard's resemblance to a bear tickled him mightily. It was probably this fact that saved the captive from a terrible fate, also, although it did not have the effect of leaving him in possession of his warm wraps.

Sitting Bull never explained to Grouard his reason for preserving his life and adopting him as a brother; but Little Assiniboine often recalled the Sioux chief's notable speech in behalf of Grouard at the council fire on the night the captive arrived in the village. From the fact that a bear will reach out after its prey and hug it close to its body, the Indians call it a "grabber;" and so, while Sitting Bull had christened Grouard "Standing Bear," he was as generally known among the Indians by his nickname of "Grabber."

"Sitting with upraised hands"