

March 5, 1948

W.S. Campbell,

Norman, Oklahoma.

My Dear Mr. Campbell: Thanks a lot for your letter of the 1st. I really didn't intend to belittle Sitting Bull, in fact I saw him two or three times in my life and at those times was not interested in how he looked as much as that I was looking at a noted character. The descriptions of him I took from what I thought was an authoritative source, and I am very glad to have my attention called to the mistakes. Should there be another edition I shall certainly make the changes you suggest. I think what you say about what people think at the time is determine history much more than the facts.

I lived in a part of the country that was antagonistic to all Indians, especially those who were prominent at the time. I was prejudiced, but later, as I became older and could think and analyze for myself, I became a great admirer, not so much of the individual as for their civilization. I have been made (adopted not simply made a chief or something) of several tribes and have lived with them for months at a time, so I do know something about the Indians. At the time Collier was head of the Bureau I was asked to help in settling differences between the Hopi (I am a member of the tribe) and the Navajo. But after a few months of trying to adjust myself to the Burocrocry I resigned because it seemed to me the government doesn't even try to find out what is the matter. The plight of the Navajo today is the result of incompetency and red tape. I believe the abolition of the Indian Bureau can be the only real solution. Of course there should be some help by the government in making the change, but Indians, thrown on their own, after a few years