

were there in obedience to the orders of their chief, Spotted Tail, and that they would not abandon the place without his consent and authority. The agent told the policemen that they had mistaken their duty. That they would not be allowed to take orders from anyone without his approval, and that if they persisted in their disobedience they would be dismissed and disgraced. With the assistance of Thunder Hawk the agent was able to disperse the crowd. Spotted Tail then appeared and informed the agent that the police force belonged to him, and that unless Thunder Hawk was dismissed for disobedience and usurpation he would disband the police at once. The agent told him that if the police were his he did not want them; to disband them at once and that he would reorganize the force by selecting better and truer men with Thunder Hawk at their head. The interview was long and heated and ended in Spotted Tail calling a council, to which he referred the whole matter. Agent Cook, however, ⁴⁴⁷ before he entered the council, told him that it made no difference what the conclusions of the council might be, that he could not surrender his authority to Spotted Tail or anyone else. The council sustained that the agent. The police resumed their duties and Spotted Tail apologized, saying/that he had been the agent so long that he had forgotten that the Great Father had sent him a new one.

Early in 1881 the large body of the hostiles in Canada deserted Sitting Bull and returned to the United States under the leadership of Gall, who by this time had gained complete ascendancy in influence over his wily rival. But one subchief and 200 old men, women and children remained with Sitting Bull. Gall immediately came in contact with General Miles on the Poplar River in Montana, and after a stubborn engagement, surrendered with all of his followers. He pledged loyal obedience to the United States authorities and was taken first to Fort Buford and soon after to Standing Rock agency, where he arrived in June, 1881, and from that time until his death remained at peace with the government.

In July, 1881, starving and in rags, Sitting Bull, feeling that it was useless to longer hold out, appeared at Fort Buford and voluntarily surrendered to the United States troops. He was taken to Fort Randall and held as a prisoner