

of war for two years, when he was returned to the Standing Rock agency and took up his home near the place of his birth on Grand River, and remained quietly there, except when absent on exhibition throughout the east and visits to Washington, until his death, which occurred during the Messiah excitement in December, 1890.

In 1881 Spotted Tail, who, notwithstanding his many excellent qualities, was exceeding lecherous in his life, incurred the jealousy of Crow Dog, a leading sub-chief of his people, who shot and instantly killed the old chief near Rosebud agency.

Political as well as domestic jealousy entered into the feud which resulted in his

death. Spotted Tail was about to go to Washington to consult with the Indian

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department about the right of way for the Mil/waukee and Northwestern railroads,

which at that time proposed to extend across the reservations from Chamberlain and

Pierre respectively to the Black Hills. On the 5th of August Spotted Tail called

his people into council to learn their views before he left for the east. The feast

attending the council broke up about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The people were

scattering out to their camps, and Spotted Tail, mounted on his horse, was some

distance in advance. Crow Dog, through a prominent sub-chief who had rendered

noteworthy assistance to the agent in the disturbance of the previous year, had

not attended the council, but at this juncture was seen approaching the village in

his wagon, his wife accompanying him. As he was about to meet Spotted Tail he

alighted from his wagon and shot the old chief through the breast. Spotted Tail

fell from his horse, but at once rose up, making a few steps toward Crow Dog, at

the same time endeavoring to draw his pistol. Crow Dog then jumped into his wagon

and drove off toward his camp, some nine miles distant. The crime created intense

excitement among the Indians, and while in the greater measure due to domestic

jealousy, Crow Dog was incited to the act by Black Crow, a headman who was ambitious

to succeed Spotted Tail as chief. Both Crow Dog and Black Crow were arrested and

taken to Deadwood for trial, where Crow Dog was convicted and sentenced to be hung.

Neither Spotted Tail nor Red Cloud ever acquired progressive views. Both, having risen to the position of important chiefs, were reluctant to surrender any